

Nº 38
02508

MARVEL SUPER SPECIAL™

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RED SONJA™



THE OFFICIAL
COMICS
ADAPTATION
OF THE
SPECTACULAR
NEW FILM!

Mary Wilson
Collette



RED SONJA

The Movie

DINO DE LAURENTIIS PRESENTS
A RICHARD FLEISCHER Film

RED
SONJA™

Introducing **BRIGITTE NIELSEN** as "RED SONJA" **SANDAH BERGMAN** **PAUL SMITH** **RONALD LACEY** and
ARNOLD SCHWARTZENEGGER "RED SONJA" Music Composed by **ENNIO MORRICONE** Based on the Character Created by **ROBERT E. HOWARD**
Written by **CLIVE EXTON** and **GEORGE MACDONALD FRASER** Produced by **CHRISTIAN FERRY** Directed by **RICHARD FLEISCHER**

Adapted by **MARY WILSHIRE**
and **LOUISE SIMONSON**
Breakdowns **MARY WILSHIRE**
Finishes **VINCE COLLETTA**
Lettering **JANICE CHIANG**
Colors **JULIANNA FERRITER**

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Soul & Inspiration **ROBERT E. HOWARD**

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INTO THE REALM OF DARKNESS!



NO, NO, BARLOK! KEEP YOUR POINT **UP**-- LIKE **THIS**--OR YOUR OPPONENT'LL BE THROUGH YOUR GUARD AND SLICING OFF YOUR EARS!

GIVE IT UP, LITTLE BROTHER! THE **SWORD** ISN'T YOUR WEAPON AND LOSING THOSE **DONKEY EARS** MIGHT BE AN IMPROVEMENT!

MAYBE, SONJA, BUT I'LL MATCH MY **CROSSBOW** AGAINST YOUR SWORD ANY DAY!

HA! BUT I'M ALMOST AS GOOD AT THE **CROSSBOW** TOO, AND--



LEAVE BARLOK ALONE, DAUGHTER! AND COME INSIDE AND SET THE TABLE!

SWORDPLAY IS NO WORK FOR A GIRL, SONJA!

HONESTLY, MOTHER! I **AM** A BETTER FIGHTER THAN BARLOK! AND YOU LET **VARNA** WIELD A SWORD!

I DID INDEED! AND ONE DAUGHTER GUARDING THE **TEMPLE OF THE TALISMAN** IS ENOUGH!

BUT--

MOTHER, LOOK! A DUST CLOUD! SOMEONE'S COMING! I WONDER WHO?

HER MAJESTY **QUEEN GEDREN** IS RECRUITING MEN FOR HER ATTACK ON ZEREJ, PEASANT! AND YOU HAVE THERE A READY-MADE **RECRUIT!**

ZEREJ IS FAR AWAY AND HAS DONE US NO HARM! YOU'LL TAKE MY SON OVER MY DEAD BODY!



YOU RESIST? THEN KILL HIM THEN, **IKOL!** KILL THEM **ALL!**



ALL BUT THE RED-HAIRED BEAUTY THERE! I'VE TAKEN A **FANCY** TO HER!

FATHER! BARLOK! NOOO!



THOK!

THOK!



MOTHER! LEAVE THEM ALONE, YOU MONSTERS!

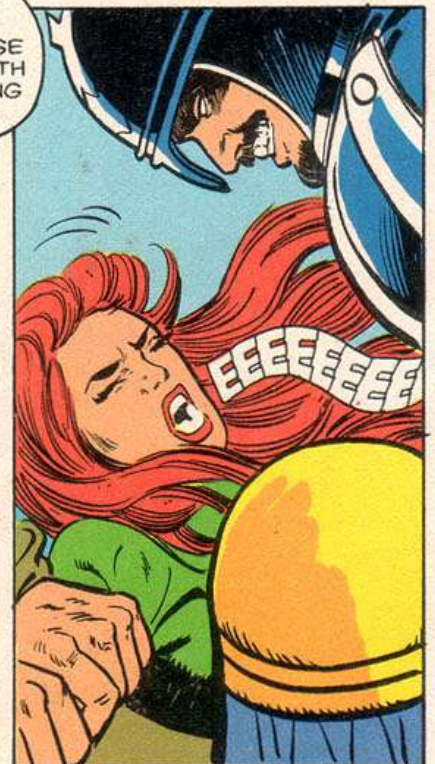
LEAVE THEM ALONE!

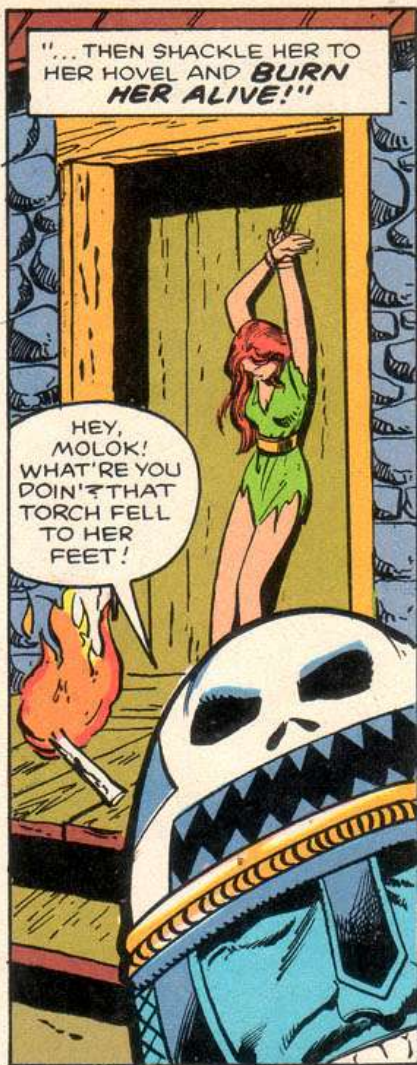


OSLKT!
AAIIIEEEE!
MY FACE--
DISFIGURED!

YOU'LL **PAY** FOR THAT, YOU VICIOUS LITTLE **FOOL!**

SHE IS YOUR PLAYTHING, SOLDIERS! AMUSE YOURSELVES WITH HER FOR AS LONG AS YOU LIKE...





"... THEN SHACKLE HER TO
HER HOVEL AND **BURN
HER ALIVE!**"

HEY,
MOLOK!
WHAT'RE YOU
DOIN' THAT
TORCH FELL
TO HER
FEET!



SO? QUEEN GEDREN
SAID BURN THE HOUSE
AROUND HER, DIDN'T SHE?
AND THE DOOR-POST'S
CAUGHT ALREADY!!

DEATH'S
LICKIN' AT
HER HEELS,
CARK! LET HER
WATCH IT
COMIN'!

S-SONJA...



B-BARLOK?
YOU'RE
ALIVE...?



YES... DON'T
WORRY, SONJA... I'LL
SAVE YOU... ONLY...
CAN'T SEEM TO
MOVE MY LEGS...

THE **CROSSBOW'S**
YOUR WEAPON,
BARLOK! SHOOT...
SHOOT, BROTHER!



FREE ME...
ANY WAY
YOU CAN...



aaagh!

BARLOK!



NO! HE'S
DEAD! THEY'RE
ALL DEAD!

GODS... IF GODS
THERE BE... GRANT
ME VENGEANCE!...
VENGEANCE...



CHOK!





THE CROSSBOW WAS ALWAYS YOUR WEAPON, LITTLE BARLOK! YOU USED IT WELL!

YOU BOUGHT US **ALL** THIS CHANCE FOR VENGEANCE WITH YOUR LIFE! I WILL NOT FAIL YOU, BROTHER!

MY FATHER'S SWORD IS **MINE**! IT IS NOW MY WEAPON MORE THAN EVER!

MY SWORD!
MY **STRENGTH**!
MY **VENGEANCE**!
I **VOW** I WILL NOT FAIL!

MANY MONTHS
LATER AND MANY
MILES AWAY...

RUMBLE

THE **CHANTING** HAS BEGUN, QUEEN GEDREN! ALL OF THE PRIESTESSES AND GUARDS ARE NOW INSIDE THE **TEMPLE OF THE TALISMAN**...

...AND THE EARTH **QUAKES** MORE INTENSELY WITH EACH PASSING MOMENT! I SAY WE ATTACK AT ONCE!

NO, IKOL! WHEN OUR WARRIORS HAVE SURROUNDED THE DOME, I WILL GIVE THE SIGNAL!

ONLY THEN WILL I TAKE WHAT I HAVE COME FOR AND DESTROY THEM ALL!

AND WITHIN THE DOME...

VARNA!
WHERE IS THE **LORD OF HRYKANIA**?

HE HAS NOT COME, HIGH PRIESTESS KENDRA!

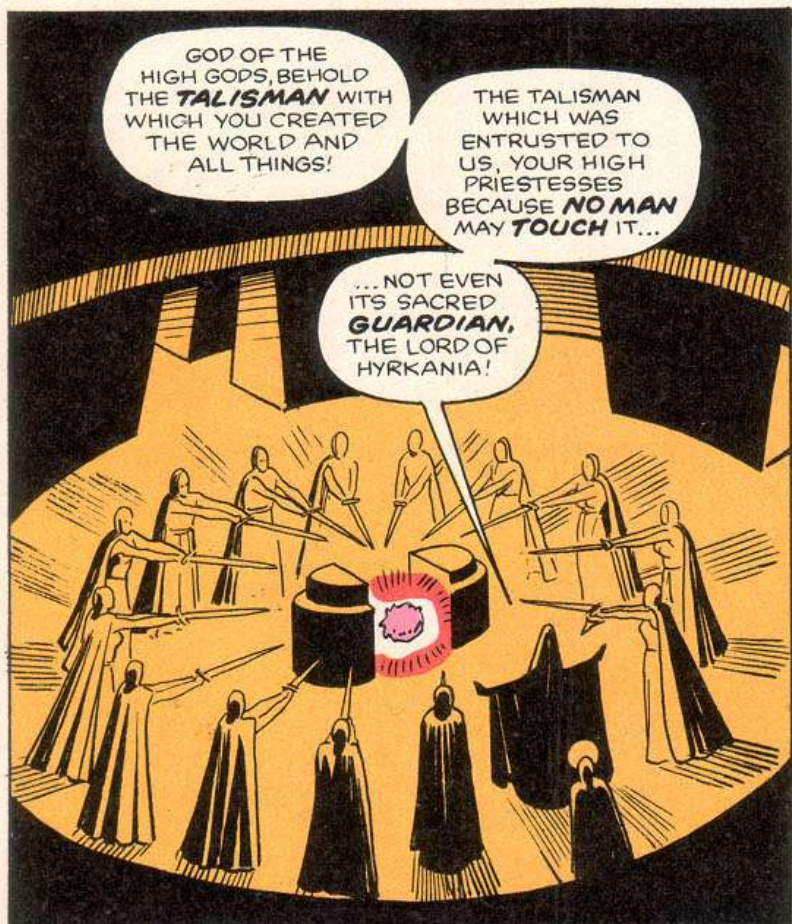
HE SHOULD BE HERE TO ACT AS **WITNESS**! BUT THE TREMORS GROW IN INTENSITY!

WE DARE NOT DELAY THE **DESTRUCTION** OF THE **TALISMAN** ANY LONGER! WE SHALL HAVE TO PROCEED **WITHOUT** HIM!

GOD OF THE HIGH GODS, BEHOLD THE **TALISMAN** WITH WHICH YOU CREATED THE WORLD AND ALL THINGS!

THE TALISMAN WHICH WAS ENTRUSTED TO US, YOUR HIGH PRIESTESSES BECAUSE **NO MAN** MAY **TOUCH** IT...

...NOT EVEN ITS SACRED **GUARDIAN**, THE LORD OF HRYKANIA!



RUMBLE

OH GOD OF GODS!
IT HAS BECOME TOO
POWERFUL FOR
US! THAT WHICH WAS
A BLESSING HAS
BECOME A
DANGER!

FORGIVE US NOW,
AS WE SEND IT OUT
OF THE **LIGHT** FROM
WHICH IT DRAWS ITS
POWER, INTO **ETERNAL**
DARKNESS...

AND AS THE HIGH
PRIESTESS REMOVES
A **SCEPTER** FROM
ITS NICHE, TWO SIDES
OF THE ALTAR BEGIN
TO CLOSE UPON THE
TALISMAN, VERY
SLOWLY...

AND
SUDDENLY...

WE MUST
DESTROY
IT BEFORE IT
DESTROYS THE
WORLD!

TAKE
THEM!
NOW!

ugh!

CHONK!

GUARDS!
PRIESTESSES!
DRAW YOUR
SWORDS!





TEMPLE GUARDS!
TO ME!

WE'RE
WITH YOU,
VARNA!

FORM A **PHALANX**
'ROUND THE TALISMAN!
LET NOT **ONE WARRIOR**
THROUGH TILL IT IS
GONE FROM THE LIGHT!

A WALL OF
HARLOTS LIKE
YOU WON'T STOP THE
LIKES OF US! YOU'RE
OUT-NUMBERED,
WENCHES!

YOU FIGHT
LIKE HELLIONS
BUT YOU'LL PAY
THE PRICE!

NO! YOU
CANNOT!
YOU KNOW
NOT WHAT
YOU DO!

SLUKT!

WE KNOW!
WE FIGHT FOR
GEDREN AND **NO**
ONE COULD HOLD
THE **TALISMAN**
AGAINST **QUEEN**
GEDREN'S HORDE!

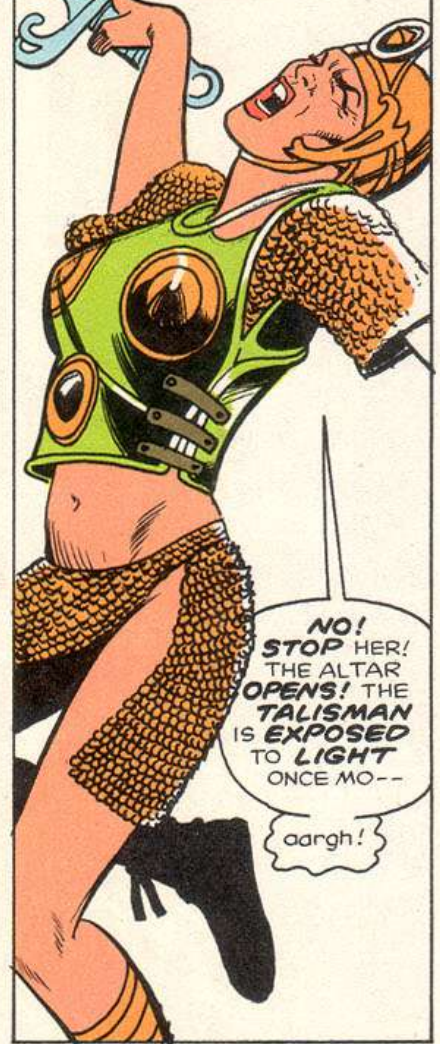
AND THEN, THROUGH THE THICK OF
BATTLE STRIDES **QUEEN GEDREN**
HERSELF...

AH, THE
HIGH PRIESTESS
KENDRA! I SHALL
TAKE THAT SCEPTER
NOW! YOU HAVE NO
FURTHER USE FOR
IT, NOR AUGHT
ELSE OF THIS
WORLD...

CHOKT!

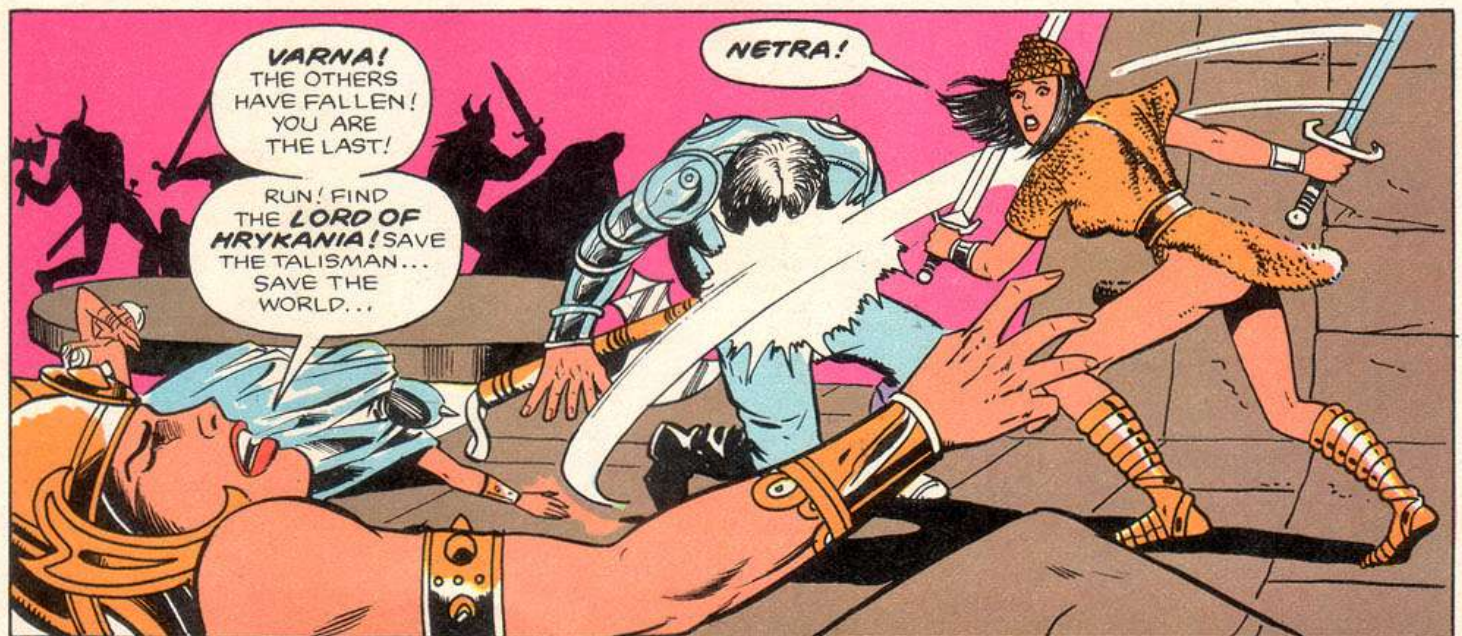
AND I
HAVE GREAT
PLANS FOR
IT--**GREAT**
PLANS,
INDEED!

GLOWING WITH TRIUMPH,
QUEEN GEDREN INSERTS THE
SCEPTER INTO ITS NICHE IN
THE ALTAR...



NO!
STOP HER!
THE ALTAR
OPENS! THE
TALISMAN
IS EXPOSED
TO LIGHT
ONCE MO--

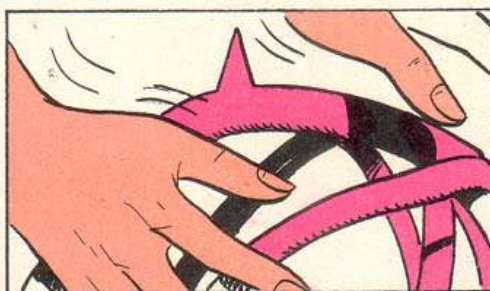
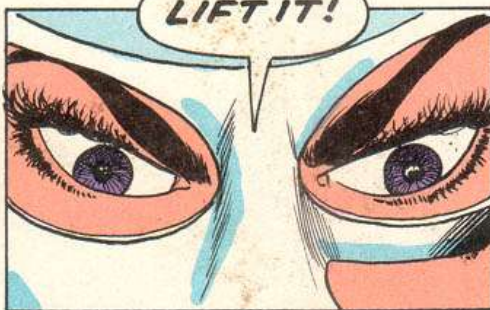
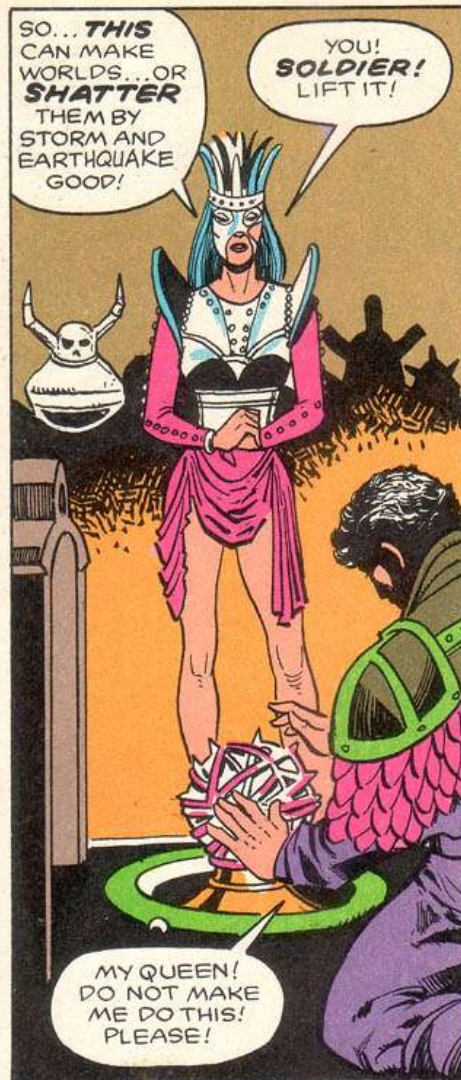
aargh!



VARNA!
THE OTHERS
HAVE FALLEN!
YOU ARE
THE LAST!

RUN! FIND
THE **LORD OF**
HRYKANIA! SAVE
THE TALISMAN...
SAVE THE
WORLD...

NETRA!



BUT, SERGEANT--
A SLIP OF A
GIRL CAN'T
POSSIBLY--

CAN'T **WHAT**
SOLDIER? THEY FOUGHT
LIKE HELL-CATS BACK
THERE! WE **OUTNUMBERED**
THEM, BUT THEY CAN
FIGHT!

UNSLING
YOUR CROSSBOW,
SOLDIER! WE'LL
TAKE NO CHANCES
WITH HER!



IT'S ONE OF
THE **TEMPLE**
GUARDS--
IT'S **VARNA!**



BUT
WHY--?



THERE
SHE
GOES,
SARGE!

I **TOLD**
YOU!
KILL HER!

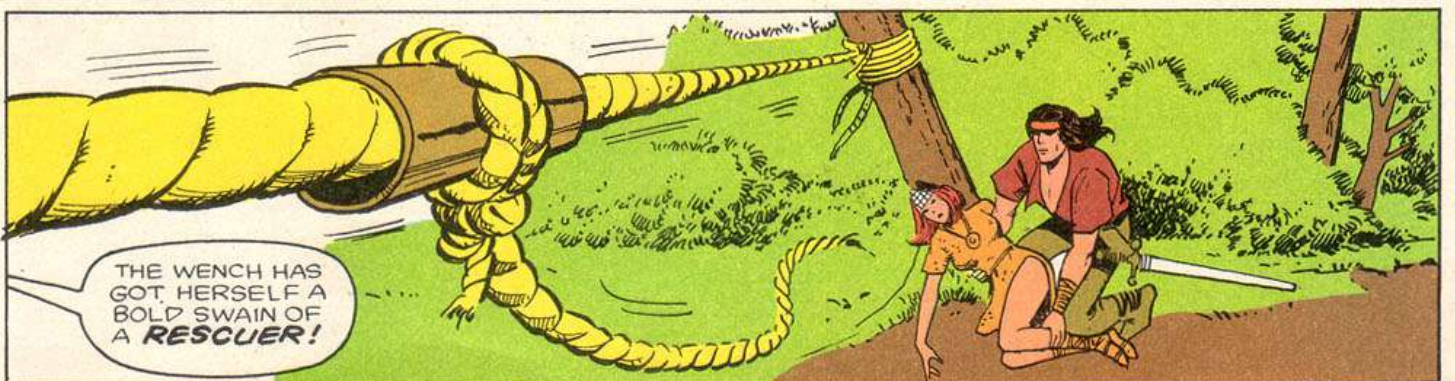


THOK!

LORD
KALIDOR--
AAGHG!



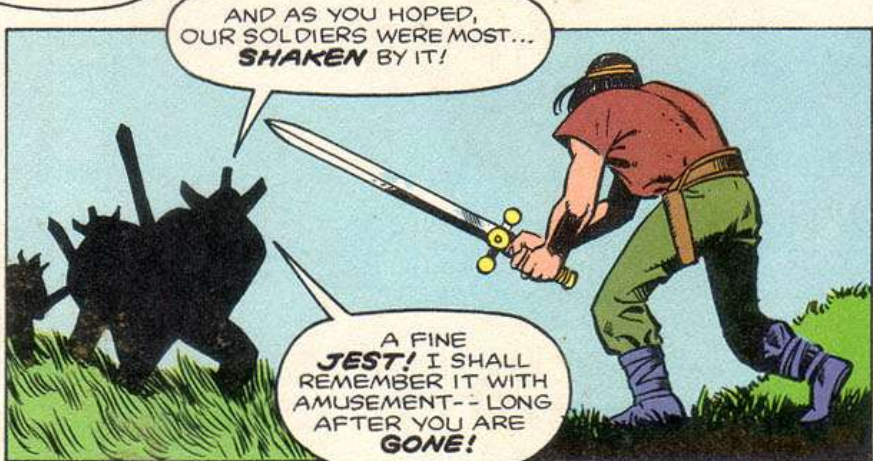
FWISHT!



THE WENCH HAS
GOT HERSELF A
BOLD SWAIN OF
A **RESCUER!**



I WONDER-- IF IT'S PULLED TAUT, LIKE A BOW STRING...





SHWOOP!

THOK!

VARNA!



WHAK!

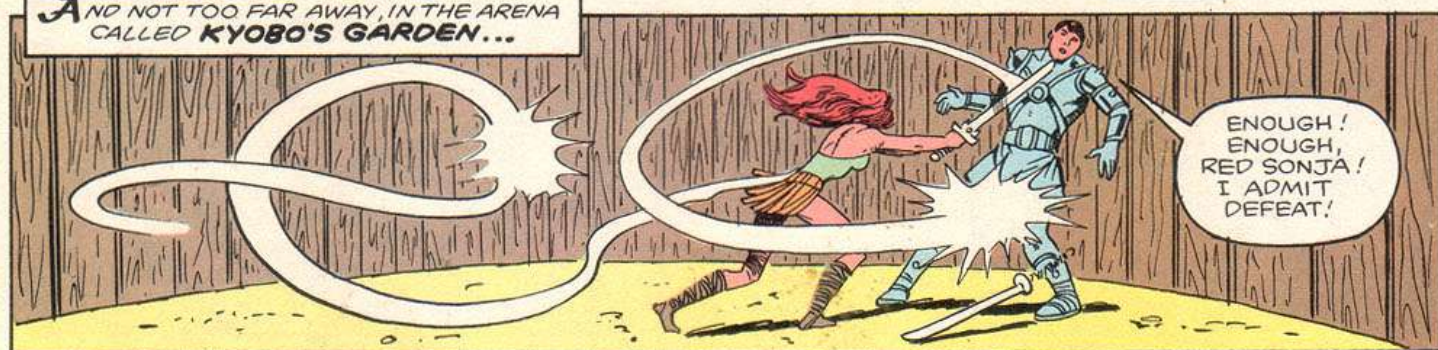


KALIDOR...
LISTEN
TO ME...THE
TALISMAN...
STOLEN...

MUST
DESTROY THE
TALISMAN...
ONLY A
WOMAN MAY
TOUCH IT!

WE MUST
FIND **SONJA...** MY
SISTER! TAKE ME
TO HER... I KNOW
WHERE SHE IS!

AND NOT TOO FAR AWAY, IN THE ARENA
CALLED **KYOBO'S GARDEN...**



ENOUGH!
ENOUGH,
RED SONJA!
I ADMIT
DEFEAT!



MAGNIFICENT!
YOU HAVE NOTHING
MORE TO LEARN,
RED SONJA!



INDEED!
YOU ARE THE
MASTER OF KYOBO--
THE MASTER! NEVER
HAVE I SEEN
YOUR EQUAL! I
EMBRACE YOU,
SONJA!

YOU SHALL NOT
TOUCH ME!

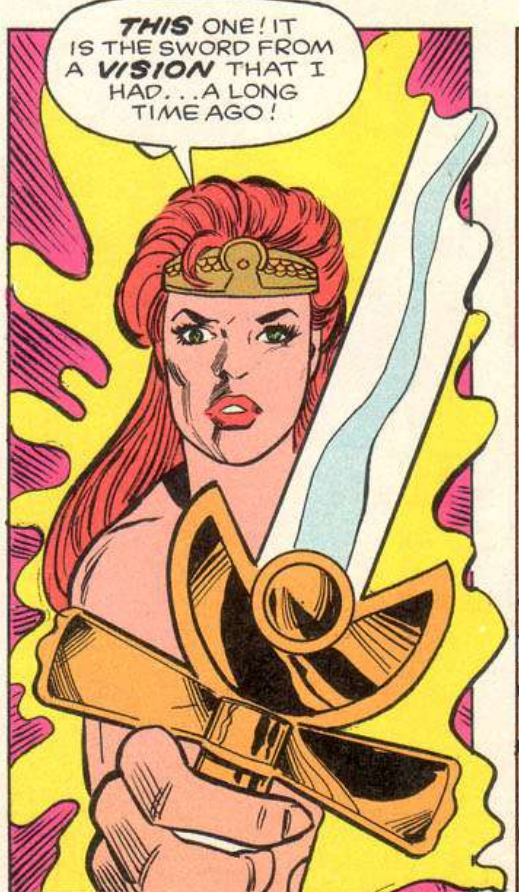
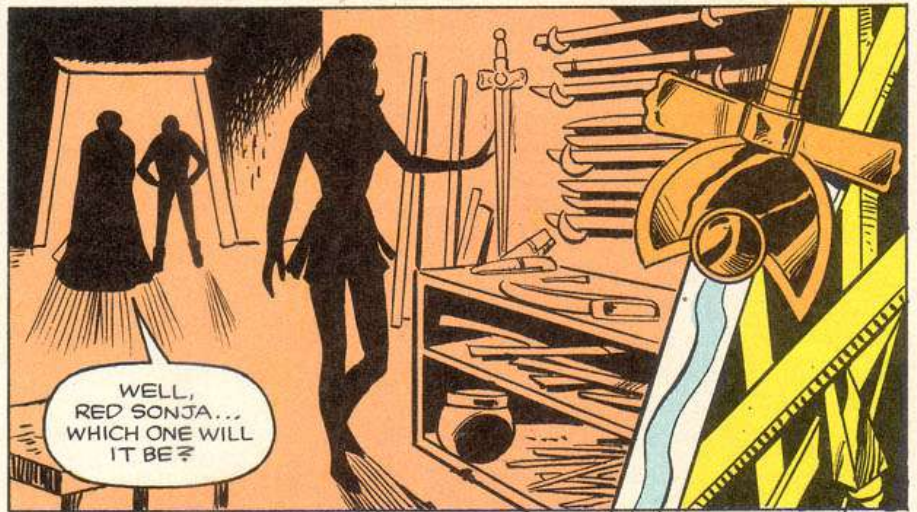
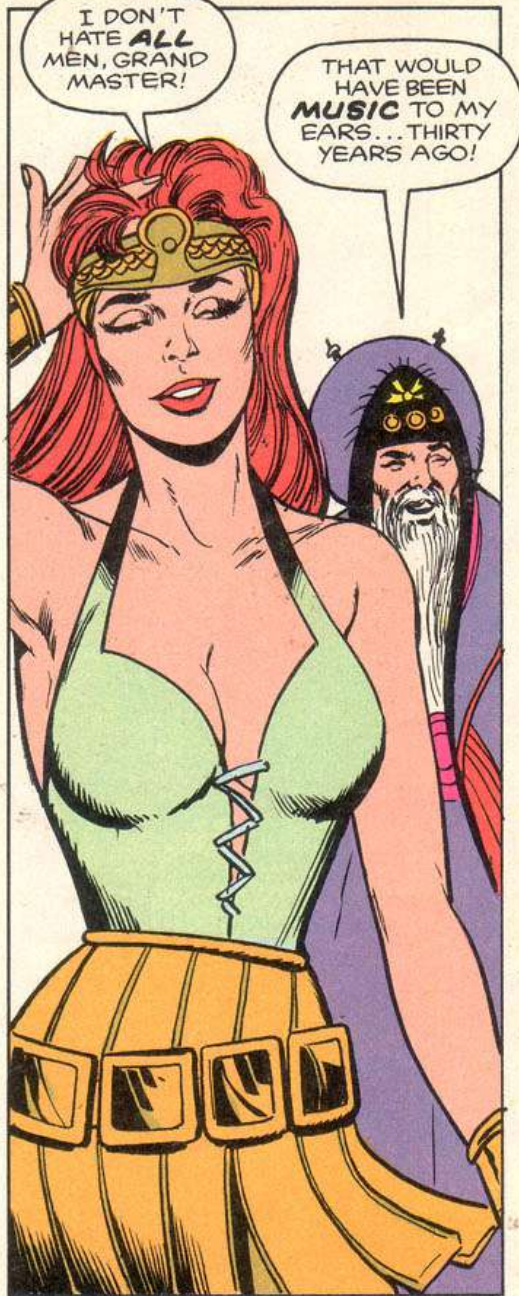


SONJA, YOU
MUST LEARN TO
LIKE MEN A LITTLE
BETTER. THEY ARE
NOT **ALL...** EVIL!

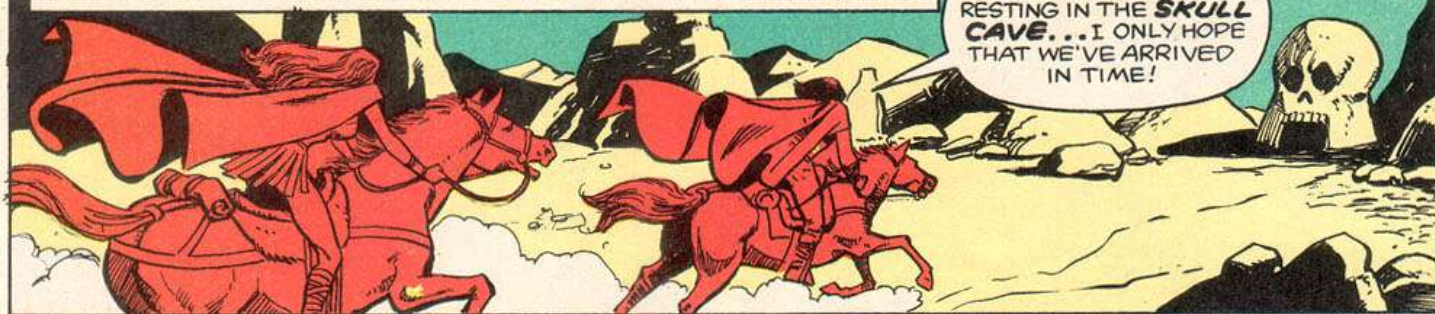
WE MUST
JUDGE BY
OUR OWN
EXPERIENCE,
GRAND
MASTER!

AND **YOURS**
HAS NOT BEEN
HAPPY! BUT LIFE
IS NOT ALL
SWORDPLAY!

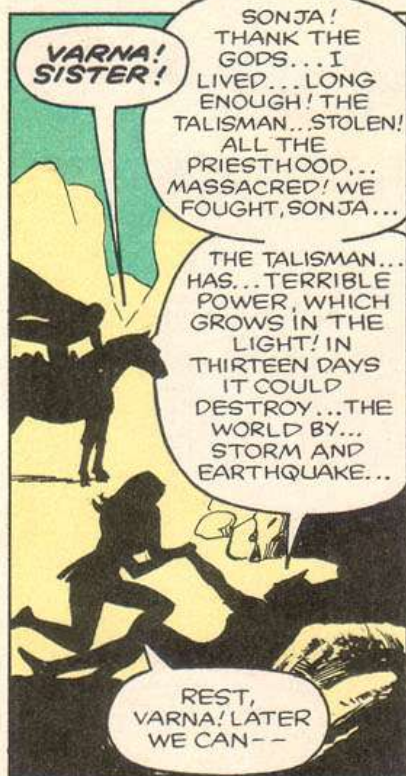
HATRED OF MEN
IN A LOVELY
YOUNG WOMAN...IT
COULD BE YOUR
DOWNFALL!



DAY TURNS TO NIGHT AND NIGHT TO DAY AS RED SONJA FOLLOWS LORD KALIDOR INTO THE DESOLATE PLAIN OF MOMENTS UNTIL...



VARNA'S
RIGHT AHEAD, SONJA,
RESTING IN THE **SKULL
CAVE**... I ONLY HOPE
THAT WE'VE ARRIVED
IN TIME!



**VARNA!
SISTER!**

SONJA!
THANK THE
GODS... I
LIVED... LONG
ENOUGH! THE
TALISMAN... STOLEN!
ALL THE
PRIESTHOOD...
MASSACRED! WE
FOUGHT, SONJA...

THE TALISMAN...
HAS... TERRIBLE
POWER, WHICH
GROWS IN THE
LIGHT! IN
THIRTEEN DAYS
IT COULD
DESTROY... THE
WORLD BY...
STORM AND
EARTHQUAKE...

REST,
VARNA! LATER
WE CAN--



NO TIME...
LISTEN! YOU MUST
DESTROY THE TALISMAN!
SONJA! SEND IT INTO
DARKNESS! SWEAR
THAT YOU WILL!

I **SWEAR!**
WHO
TOOK IT?

I... DON'T
KNOW! THERE
WAS A WOMAN... IN
CRIMSON ARMOR...
SOLDIERS...



WHERE DID
THEY TAKE IT?
NORTH? SOUTH?
**VARNA!
VARNA!**

**SHE'S
DEAD!**

AND THE
LIVING HAVE
WORK
TO DO!



HER WORK...
MY WORK... IS NO
CONCERN OF YOURS,
KALIDOR! AND NOW
I MUST BUILD HER
**FUNERAL
PYRE!**



I THANK YOU,
KALIDOR, FOR WHAT
YOU DID FOR MY
SISTER! YOU'LL BE
REWARDED!

I'M NOT
A MERCENARY,
SONJA! NOBODY
PAYS ME! WHEN I
THINK I'M DUE
SOMETHING, I
TAKE IT!

FAR OFF
BEYOND THE
MOUNTAINS,
SOMEONE'S
USING THE
TALISMAN!



WHAT **PLACE**
IS THAT?

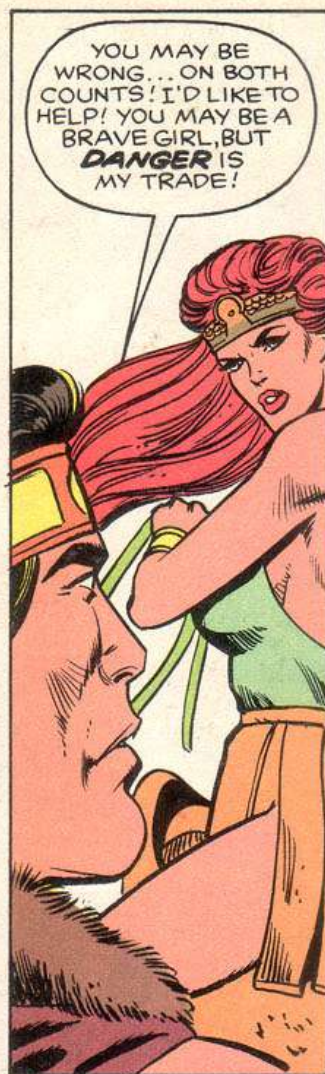
**HABLOC--
A GREAT CITY!**



WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

WAIT!
I'LL COME WITH YOU!

WHY **SHOULD** YOU? IT IS NOT YOUR AFFAIR...AND NEITHER AM I!



YOU MAY BE WRONG... ON BOTH COUNTS! I'D LIKE TO HELP! YOU MAY BE A BRAVE GIRL, BUT **DANGER** IS MY TRADE!



THEN I'LL **LEARN** IT-- BY MYSELF! DON'T **ANGER** ME, STRANGER! I DON'T NEED **ANY** MAN'S HELP!



MORNING SUN ILLUMINATES THE RUBBLE THAT ONCE WAS MIGHTY **HABLOC**...

NO ONE! NOTHING BUT THIS DEVASTATION WHEREVER I LOOK! CAN THE **TALISMAN** HAVE DONE--



AAAAA!

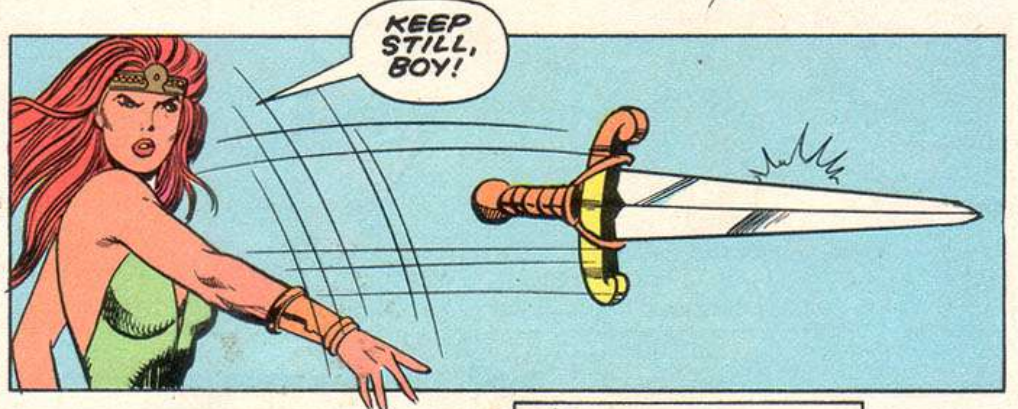
DON'T SHAKE IT, FOOL! HOLD IT STEADY! CAN YOU DO NOTHING RIGHT? STILL, YOU GREAT IDIOT!



I'M TRYING ALL-HIGHEST! BUT I CAN'T ... HOLD! QUICKLY... WALK **TOWARDS** ME!

DON'T GIVE ME ORDERS, SLAVE, OR I'LL HAVE YOU HUNG BY THE HEELS!

ANYWAY, HOW CAN I WALK WITH **THAT** IN THE WAY?





THE NEXT DAY...



HMMMMM!



BRYTAG!
BRYTAG!
COME OUT!



OVER HERE,
RED HEAD!
OVER HERE!



YOU ARE
BRYTAG?

DO I NOT WEAR
THE **KEY** AROUND
MY NECK?

THEN OPEN
THE **GATE**!

NOT SO FAST,
RED HEAD! THIS IS
MY LAND, AND
ALL WHO PASS
THROUGH IT PAY
ME **TRIBUTE**!

HOW
MUCH,
BRYTAG?

WHO MENTIONED
MONEY? **TRIBUTE**,
I SAID... OF THE
TENDER KIND THAT
ALL **WOMEN** PAY
TO BRYTAG!





AND SUPPOSE
I DON'T? SUPPOSE,
INSTEAD, I LET THE
WIND OUT OF YOUR
GREAT FAT **BELLY**?

HA! HA-HA!
YOU HEAR THAT,
WARRIORS?
SHE'S GOING
TO LET THE
WIND OUT OF
MY... **HA-HA!**

WOMAN, I'VE
FOUGHT TWO
HUNDRED MEN
AND ONLY ONE
SURVIVES! AND
HE'S GOT NO
LEGS! AND YOU
DARE TO MOCK
AT BRYTAG?



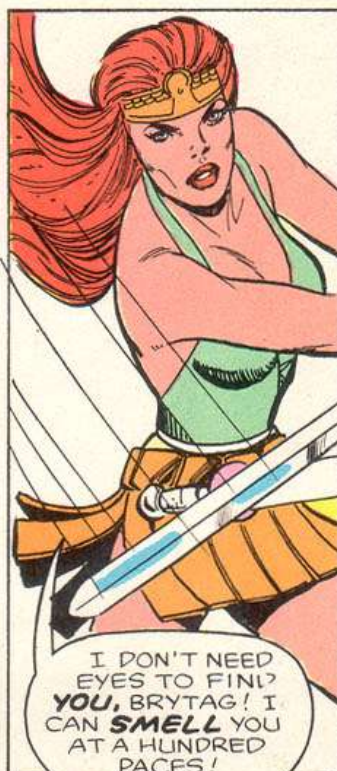
THAT TAKES
NO DARING! BUT
WHEN I'VE KILLED
YOU, WILL YOUR
WARRIORS LET ME
GO IN PEACE?



WHEN THIS
WENCH... **HA-HA!**...
HAS **KILLED** ME...
HA!... YOU'LL LET
HER GO
UNHARMED, WON'T
YOU, MY
WARRIORS?

AXE!

I'LL FEED
YOUR **EYES**
TO THE BIRDS,
RED HEAD!



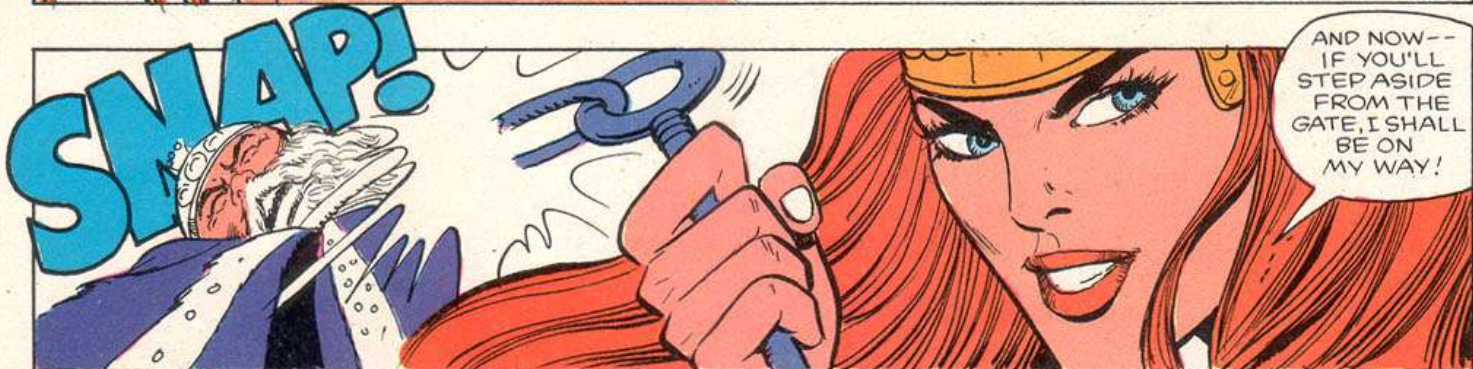
I DON'T NEED
EYES TO FIND
YOU, BRYTAG! I
CAN **SMELL** YOU
AT A HUNDRED
PACES!



I'LL TELL
THE **FUTURE** IN
YOUR **ENTRAILS**,
RED WOMAN!



I KNOW
MY FUTURE.
YOU HAVE
NONE.



SNAP!

AND NOW--
IF YOU'LL
STEP ASIDE
FROM THE
GATE, I SHALL
BE ON
MY WAY!



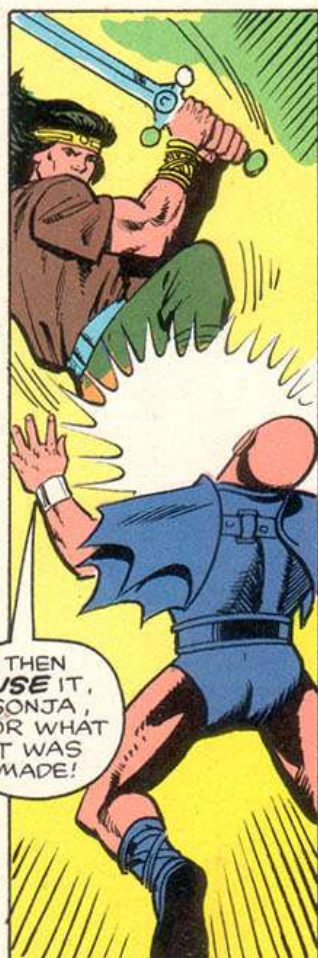
THE RED HAIR
KILLED **BRYTAG**!
SLAY HER!

SLAY
YOURSELVES,
INSTEAD, AND
SAVE **ME** THE
TROUBLE!

KALIDOR!



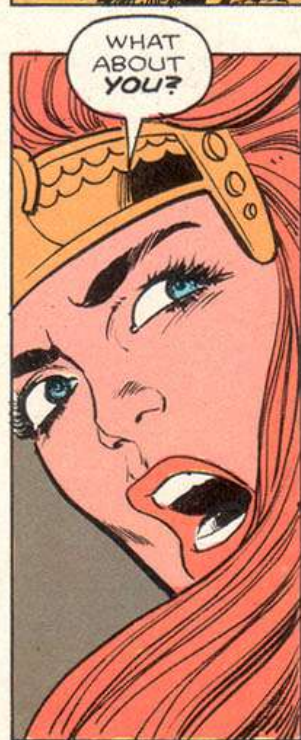
I'VE GOT
THE **KEY** TO
BRYTAG'S
ROAD!



THEN
USE IT,
SONJA,
FOR WHAT
IT WAS
MADE!



OPEN THE
GATE AND
GET **AWAY**!



WHAT
ABOUT
YOU?



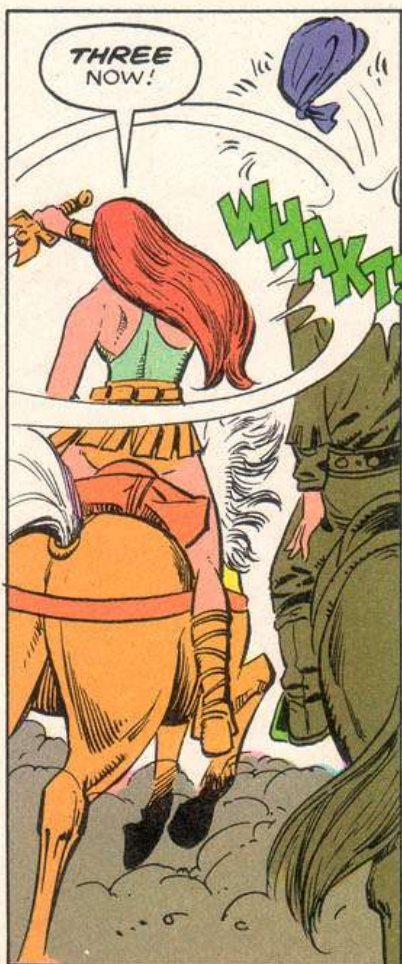
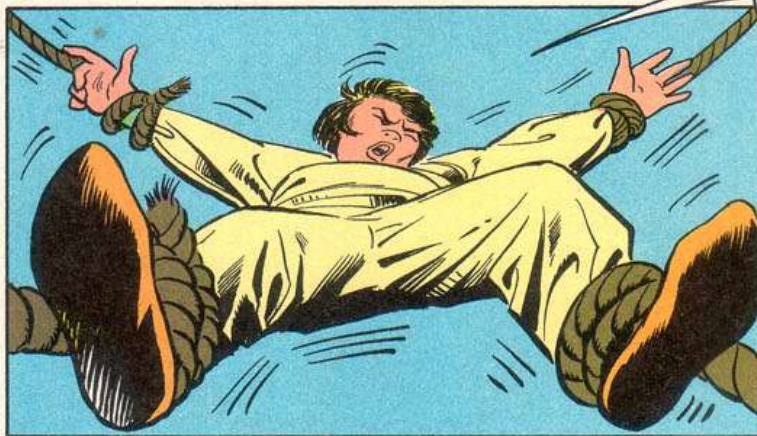
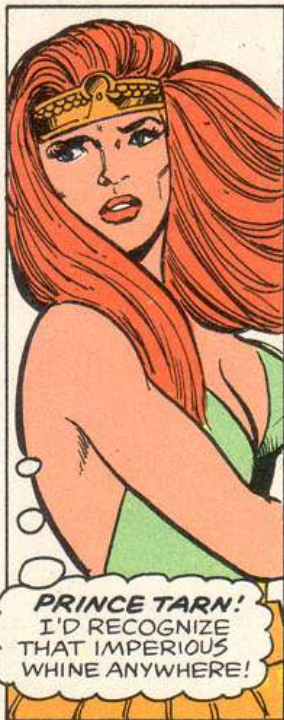
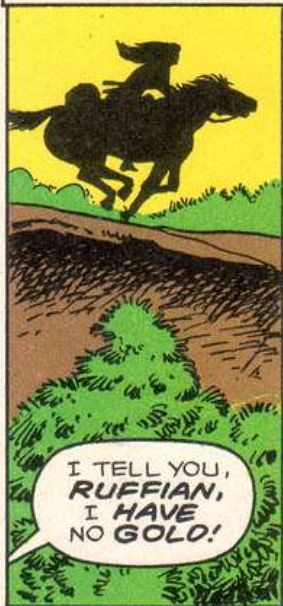
I **TOLD** YOU!
MY BUSINESS
IS **DANGER**! AND
KILLING THESE
BANDITS IS MY
PLEASURE! I CAN
HOLD THEM
HERE!

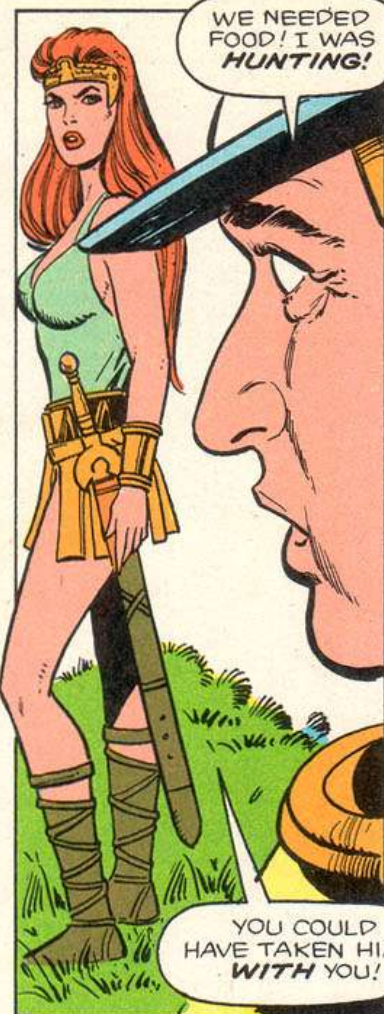
REMEMBER
YOUR VOW TO
YOUR **SISTER**!
REMEMBER THE
TALISMAN
AND GO!



HURRY!
I'LL HAVE
NO TROUBLE
WITH THESE
FELLOWS! I'VE
SLAIN HALF OF
THEM ALREADY
AS WE'VE
TALKED!

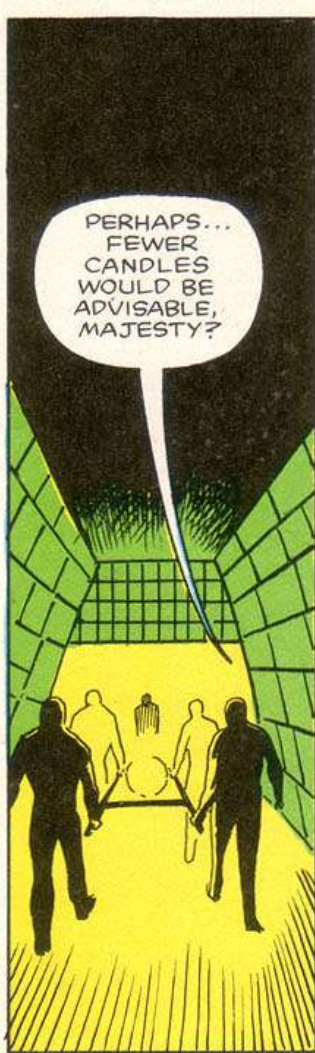
BEYOND THE TOLL
ROAD LIES A
WOODED PLAIN
WHERE SONJA MAKES
GOOD TIME UNTIL...



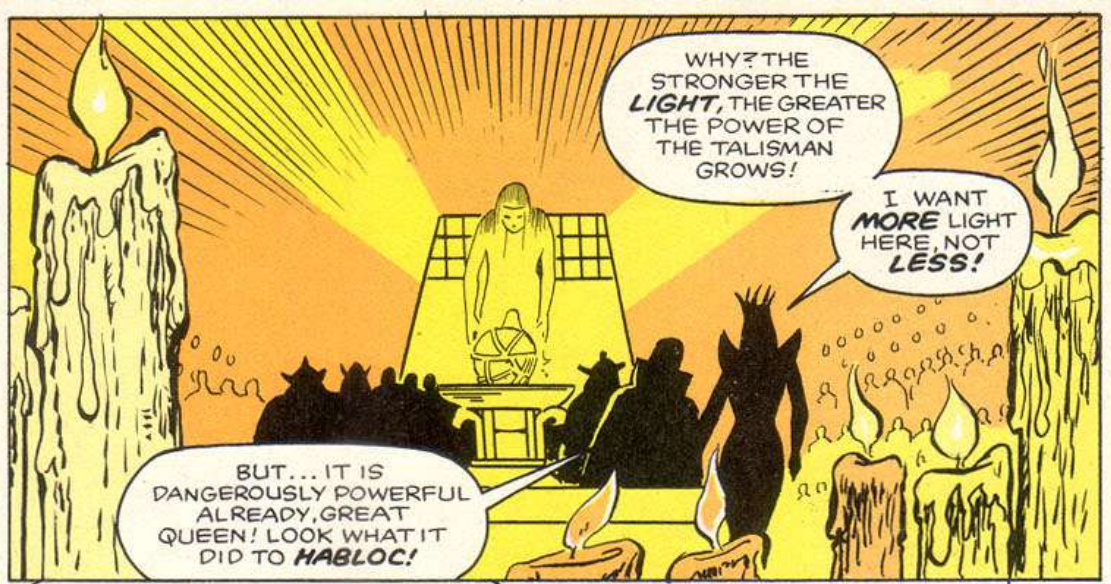


MEANWHILE, IN BIRKABEYN, THE MIST SHROUDED LAND OF ETERNAL NIGHT, A CAVALCADE WINDS ITS WAY UP TO THE GATES OF QUEEN GEDREN'S GREAT CASTLE...





PERHAPS... FEWER CANDLES WOULD BE ADVISABLE, MAJESTY?



WHY? THE STRONGER THE **LIGHT**, THE GREATER THE POWER OF THE TALISMAN GROWS!

I WANT **MORE** LIGHT HERE, NOT **LESS**!

BUT... IT IS DANGEROUSLY POWERFUL ALREADY, GREAT QUEEN! LOOK WHAT IT DID TO **HABLOC**!

YES! MOST SATISFYING! BUT I WANT ITS FULL POWER WHEN WE MARCH AGAINST TOKTOL!



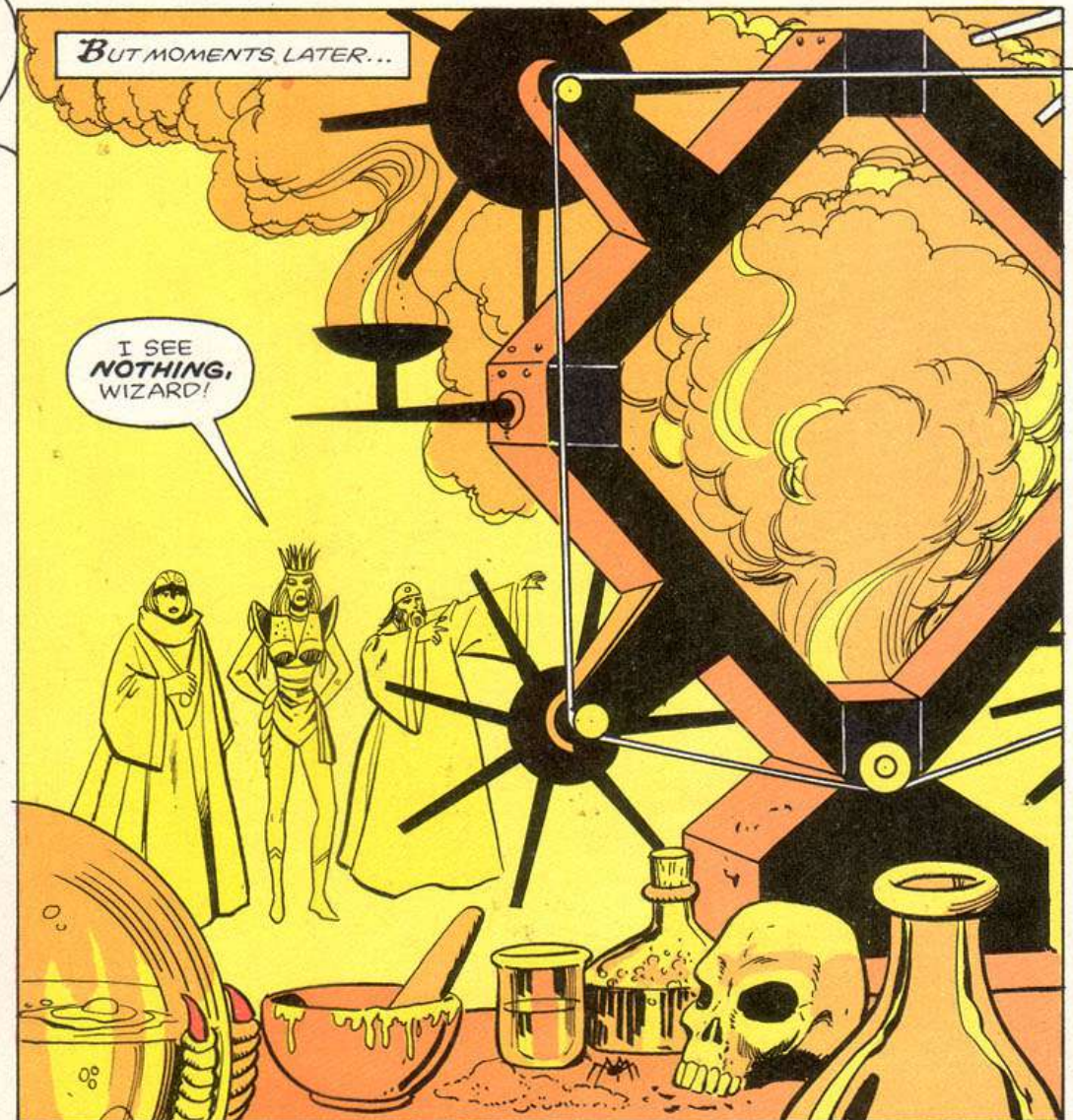
ITS **FULL** POWER, IKOL!

BUT, MAJESTY! IT WILL BE BEYOND CONTROL! IT WILL--



MAJESTY! A THOUSAND PARDONS FOR THE INTERRUPTION BUT ENEMIES ARE APPROACHING OUR KINGDOM'S OUTER BOUNDARIES!

I HAVE SEEN IT IN MY GLASS! COME... COME WITH ME IF YOU WOULD SEE THIS THING AS WELL!



BUT MOMENTS, LATER...

I SEE **NOTHING**, WIZARD!



A MOMENT, MY QUEEN! THE GLASS HAS BUT SLIPPED OUT OF FOCUS! A MINOR ADJUSTMENT HERE...



...AND THERE...

KICK!



... AND THE PICTURE WILL BE CLEAR AS...AS GLASS!

THERE!



THE LITTLE PRINCE OF HABLOC, MAJESTY! WITH HIS THREATENED ARMY!

PAH! INSECTS! TELL THE--

WAIT! THAT GIRL! IMPOSSIBLE!

SO SHE ESCAPED THE FIRE... HOW FORTUNATE!



IKOL, SEND OUT FIFTEEN MEN! KILL THE OTHERS, BUT HER I WANT ALIVE, WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A SCRATCH ON HER SKIN...!

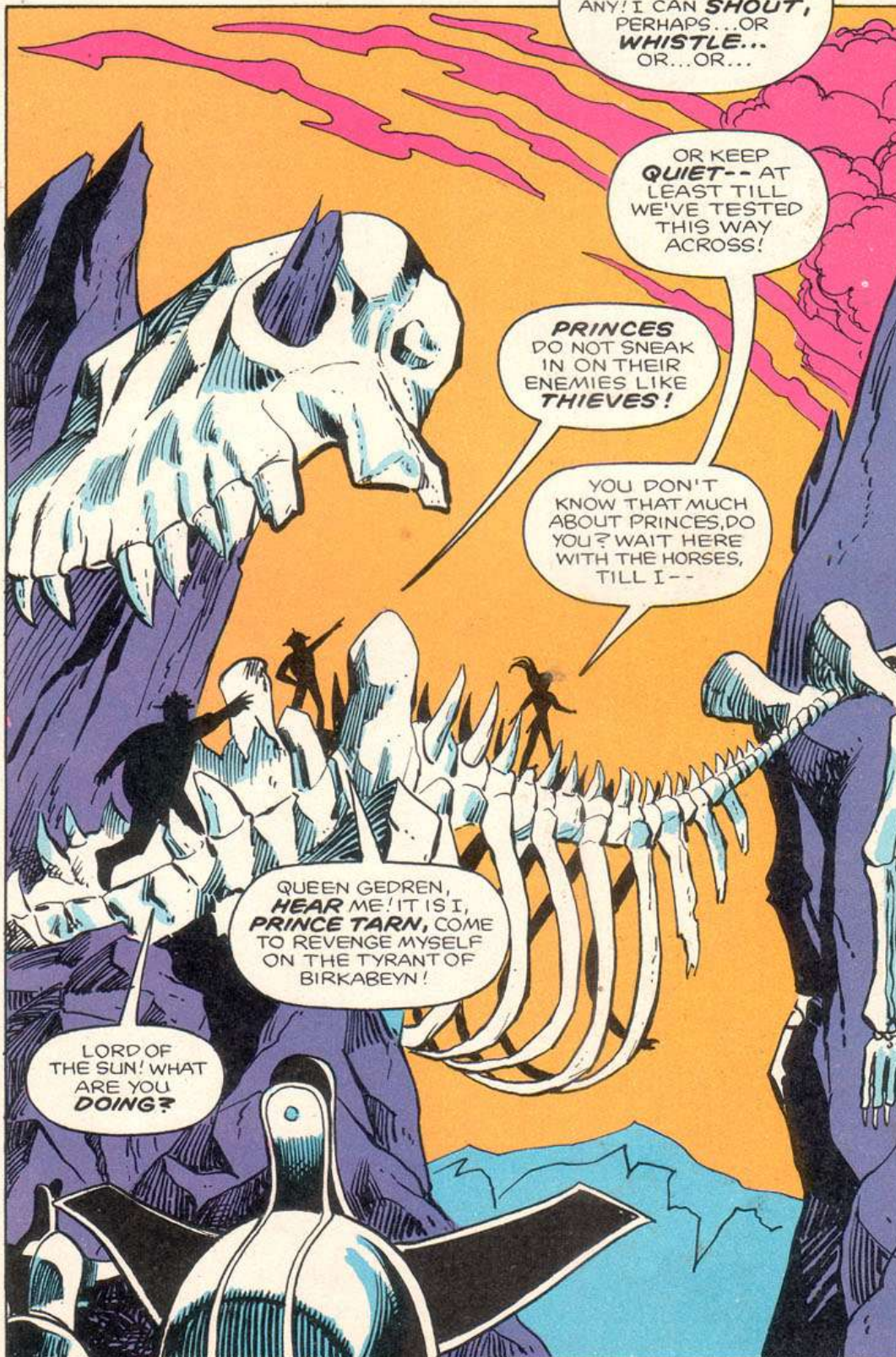


BIRKABEYN--
THE MIST
SHROUDED LAND
OF PERPETUAL
NIGHT!

JUST THE
SORT OF PLACE
QUEEN GEDREN
WOULD CHOOSE
FROM WHICH TO
CONQUER THE
WORLD!

**FALCON! PROCLAIM
MY ARRIVAL AND
DEFIANCE OF QUEEN
GEDREN--DESPOILER OF
MY KINGDOM! SOUND
YOUR TRUMPETS!**

MY **TRUMPETS**,
ALL HIGHEST?
I... AH... DON'T HAVE
ANY! I CAN **SHOUT**,
PERHAPS... OR
WHISTLE...
OR... OR...



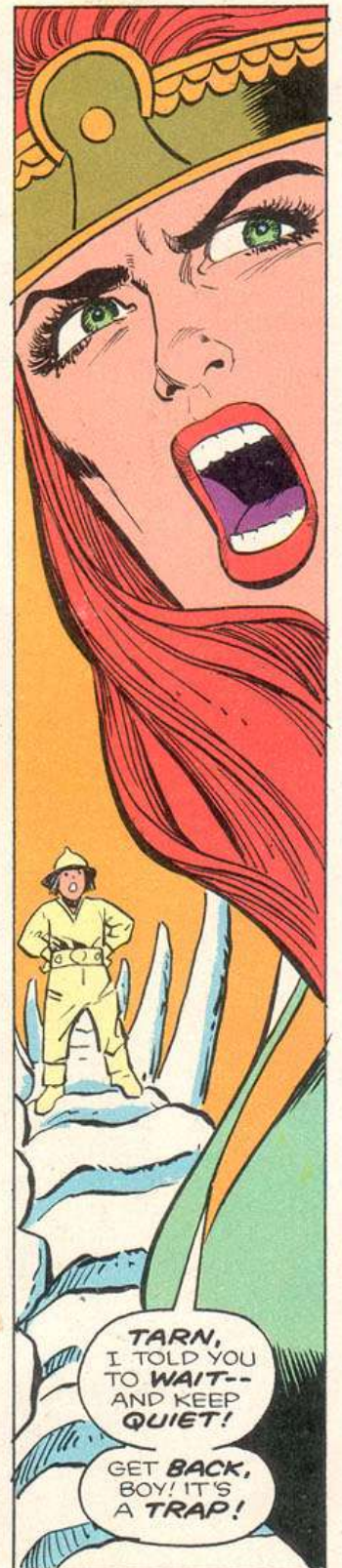
OR KEEP
QUIET-- AT
LEAST TILL
WE'VE TESTED
THIS WAY
ACROSS!

PRINCES
DO NOT SNEAK
IN ON THEIR
ENEMIES LIKE
THIEVES!

YOU DON'T
KNOW THAT MUCH
ABOUT PRINCES, DO
YOU? WAIT HERE
WITH THE HORSES,
TILL I--

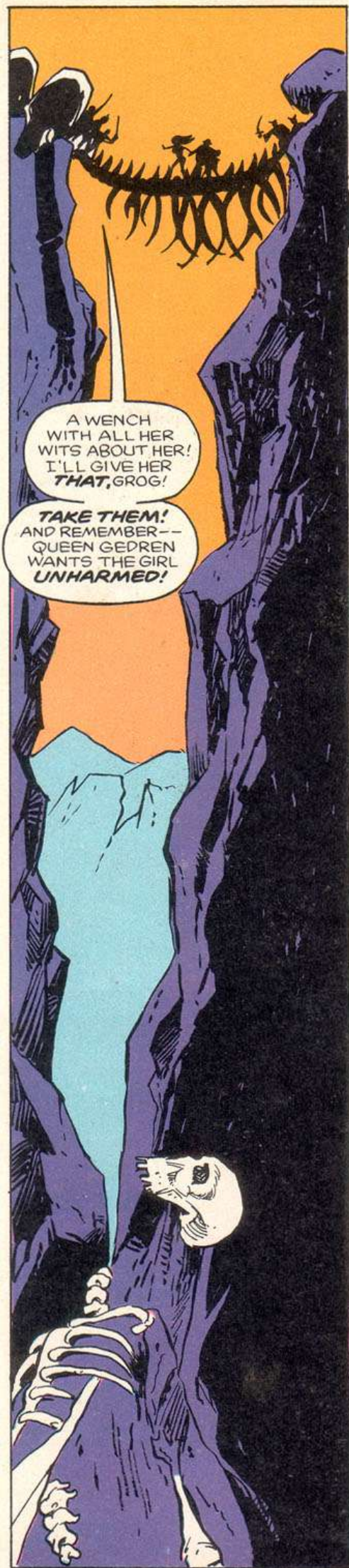
QUEEN GEDREN,
HEAR ME! IT IS I,
PRINCE TARN, COME
TO REVENGE MYSELF
ON THE TYRANT OF
BIRKABEYN!

LORD OF
THE SUN! WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?



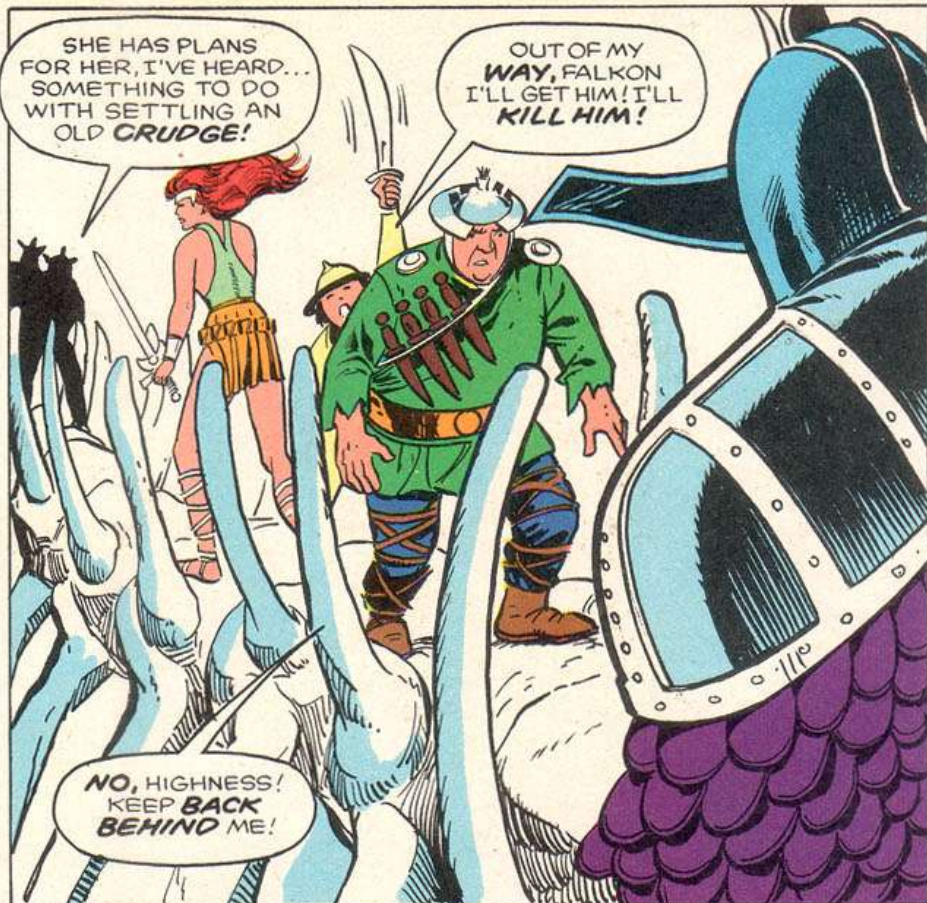
TARN,
I TOLD YOU
TO **WAIT--**
AND KEEP
QUIET!

GET **BACK**,
BOY! IT'S
A **TRAP!**



A WENCH
WITH ALL HER
WITS ABOUT HER!
I'LL GIVE HER
THAT, Grog!

TAKE THEM!
AND REMEMBER--
QUEEN GEDREN
WANTS THE GIRL
UNHARMED!



SHE HAS PLANS
FOR HER, I'VE HEARD...
SOMETHING TO DO
WITH SETTLING AN
OLD **CRUDGE!**

OUT OF MY
WAY, FALCON
I'LL GET HIM! I'LL
KILL HIM!

NO, HIGHNESS!
KEEP **BACK**
BEHIND ME!



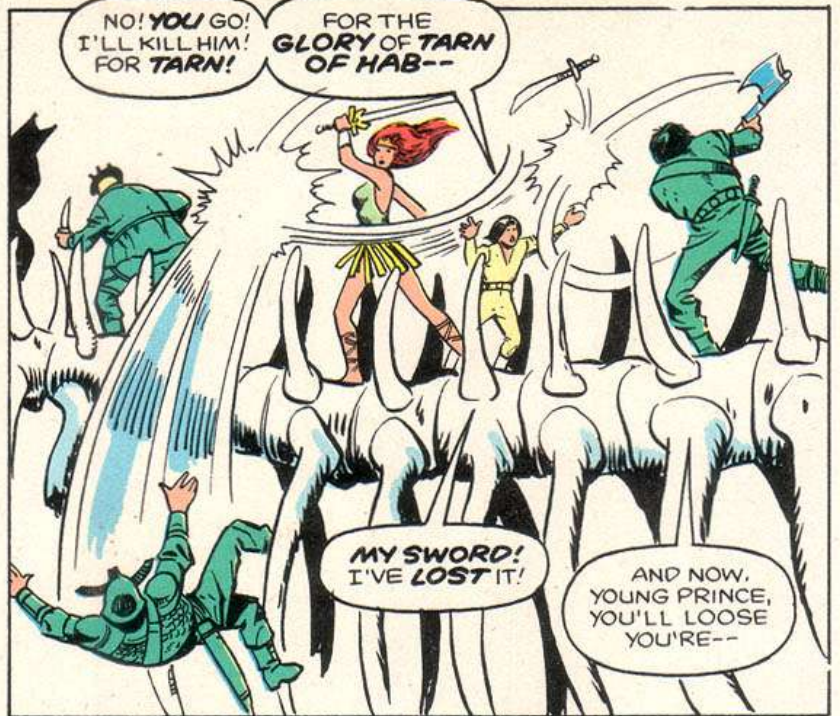
HOLD STILL,
FAT MAN, WHILE
I SPIT YOU
LIKE THE PIG
YOU ARE!

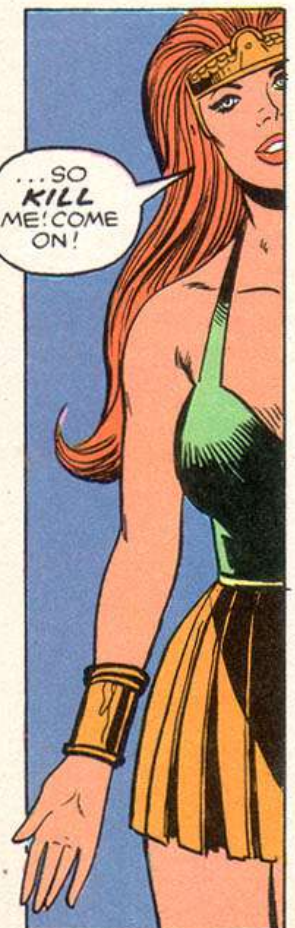
YIPES!

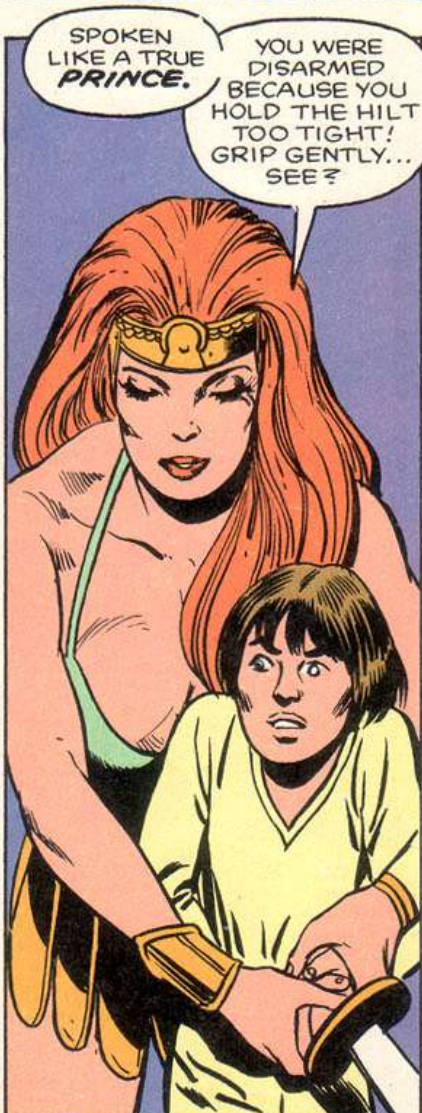
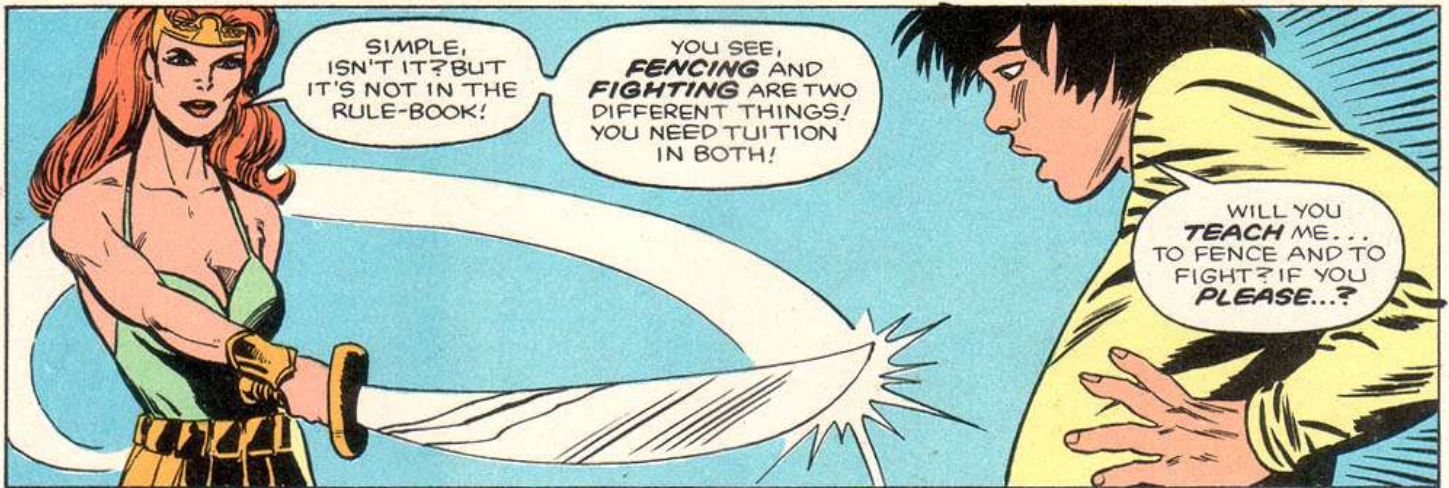
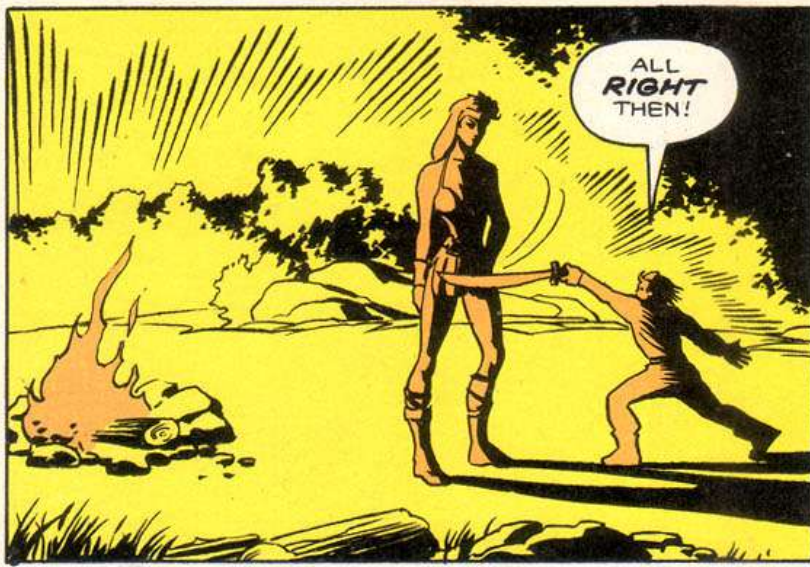


ugh!

KICKS!









"WE MUST FORCE THEM TO TAKE **SHELTER** THERE. WE SHALL USE THE TALISMAN, IKOL, TO CREATE A **STORM**... WE SHALL NEED ONLY A **LITTLE** ONE, I THINK..."

NEVER HAVE I SEEN A STORM AS **FIERCE** AS THIS ONE! WE'VE GOT TO FIND **SHELTER**, SONJA!

I FEAR THIS IS NO **ORDINARY** STORM! THERE'S A CAVE UP AHEAD! COME ON!



WELL, AT LEAST IT HAS RUNNING WATER!

WE WOULD BE BETTER OUT IN THE STORM!

BUT--IT'S **SHELTER**, ISN'T IT?



I HAVEN'T **TIME** FOR SHELTER! I'VE GOT ONLY **FOUR DAYS** LEFT TO FIND THE TALISMAN!

AND THE STORM **DROVE** US HERE... EVERY INCH OF THE WAY!

I NOTICED THAT! NOT THAT I'M **COMPLAINING**!

WHERE'S TARN? **TARN, TARN**, WHERE ARE YOU?



I'M DOWN **HERE**, SONJA! AND LOOK WHAT I'VE **FOUND**!



LOOK AT THEIR EYES--GLITTERING **EMERALDS**! THOSE STONES CAN REBUILD HABLOC, FILL ITS TREASURY, BUY ME AN ARMY!

WHOEVER MADE THESE SCULPTURES, I DON'T **LIKE** THEM! I WOULDN'T WANT THEM AT HOME, I MEAN!

I LIKE STATUES OF HORSES...OR COWS...OR BIG GIRLS **BATHING**...



NOT **SEA MONSTERS** WITH EYES THAT GLITTER AS IF THEY WERE **ALIVE**!

FALKON! LOOK AT THE **WATER**! IT'S **RIISING**! MAKE FOR THE **STAIRS** BEFORE IT--







WE DID IT! WE KILLED HIM!

KALIDOR, WHEN I LEFT YOU, YOU WERE SLAYING THE BANDITS OF BRYTAG'S TOLL ROAD! * WHY HAVE YOU BEEN FOLLOWING ME?

* LAST ISSUE-- LARRY.

IT'S A LONG STORY, SONJA, AND THE MONSTER'S ICHOR IS STAINING THE WATER!



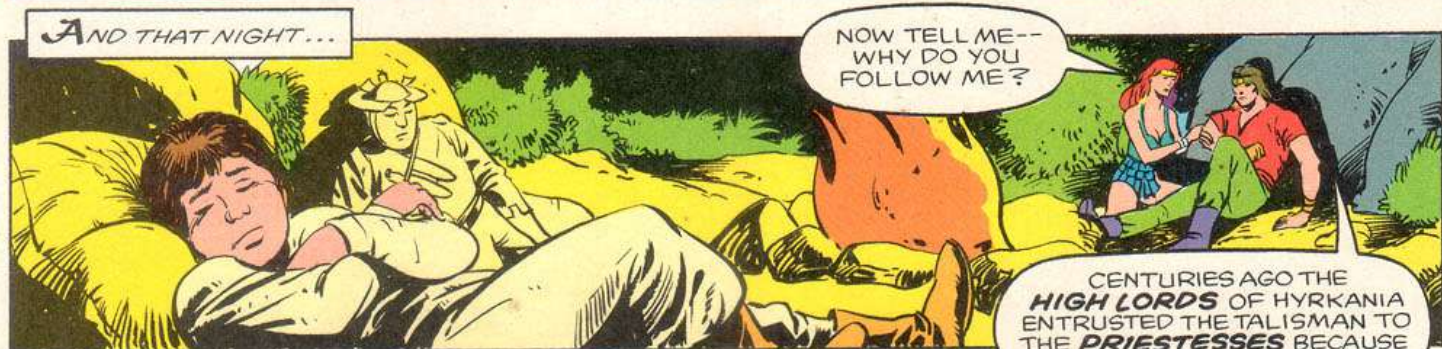
LET US GET OUT OF IT AND INTO THE WOODS! AND THEN I WILL TELL YOU MY TALE!

NO! NO! IT CANNOT BE! THIS GLASS WAS DEVISED TO TORMENT ME!



SCRASH!

AND I HAVE DESTROYED IT... AS SURELY AS I SHALL DESTROY ALL WHO STAND AGAINST ME!



AND THAT NIGHT...

NOW TELL ME-- WHY DO YOU FOLLOW ME?

CENTURIES AGO THE HIGH LORDS OF HYRKANIA ENTRUSTED THE TALISMAN TO THE PRIESTESSES BECAUSE ONLY WOMEN MAY TOUCH IT!



BUT GUARDING IT, OR DESTROYING IT, IS STILL THE DUTY OF THE HIGH LORD!

AND YOU'RE THE HIGH LORD!

I WAS COMING TO THE TEMPLE TO SEE THE TALISMAN DESTROYED WHEN I FOUND YOUR SISTER DYING...

...AND LEARNED THAT IT HAD BEEN STOLEN. SHE GUIDED ME TO YOU!



BUT... BUT WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?

YOU DIDN'T SEEM TO WANT A MAN'S HELP! BUT YOU NEEDED IT! SO I FOLLOWED... TO BE SURE YOU REACHED THE TALISMAN!

I SEE! I... MISUNDERSTOOD! I THOUGHT... YOU HAD ANOTHER REASON!



I DID!



SO... THE ONLY MAN WHO CAN HAVE YOU IS ONE WHO'S TRIED TO **KILL** YOU? A MAN YOU **HATE** ENOUGH TO KILL YOURSELF? **THAT'S** LOGIC!



THREE DAYS LATER...

GEDREN'S CASTLE!

LOOK!
LOOTERS ENTER
WITH MORE BOOTY
FROM YET ANOTHER
KINGDOM! AND SEE?
THEY'RE HERDING
THE CAPTIVES
INTO A **SIDE**
DOOR!

PERHAPS WE
CAN ENTER **THAT**
WAY! THE **GLOW**
FROM THE TALISMAN
STAINS THE MIST!
IN A FEW HOURS, IT
WILL BE OUT OF
CONTROL!

THE DOOR IS
SHUT FAST AND
THERE'S NO KEY!
WE'LL HAVE TO FIND
ANOTHER WAY **IN--**
SCALE THE **WALL,**
I THINK!

YEAH!

RUMBLE!!

EXCEPT, KALIDOR...
ONLY **THREE** OF US
SHOULD GO! BUT WHO'LL
STAY TO GUARD THIS
DOORWAY, OUR EXIT ROUTE
AND THE POST OF
GREATEST **DANGER!**

I **WOULD...**
BUT I **HAVE**
TO GO IN...

ME? NO **THANK**
YOU! I'LL TAKE MY
CHANCES UP
THERE!
FALKON...?

TAKE CARE, MY
BRAVE PRINCE!
IT PUTS MY MIND
AT REST TO KNOW
YOU'RE HERE!

W-WHO **ME?**
I'D BE TOO
SCARED!

COWARD!
THEN I
SHALL STAY!

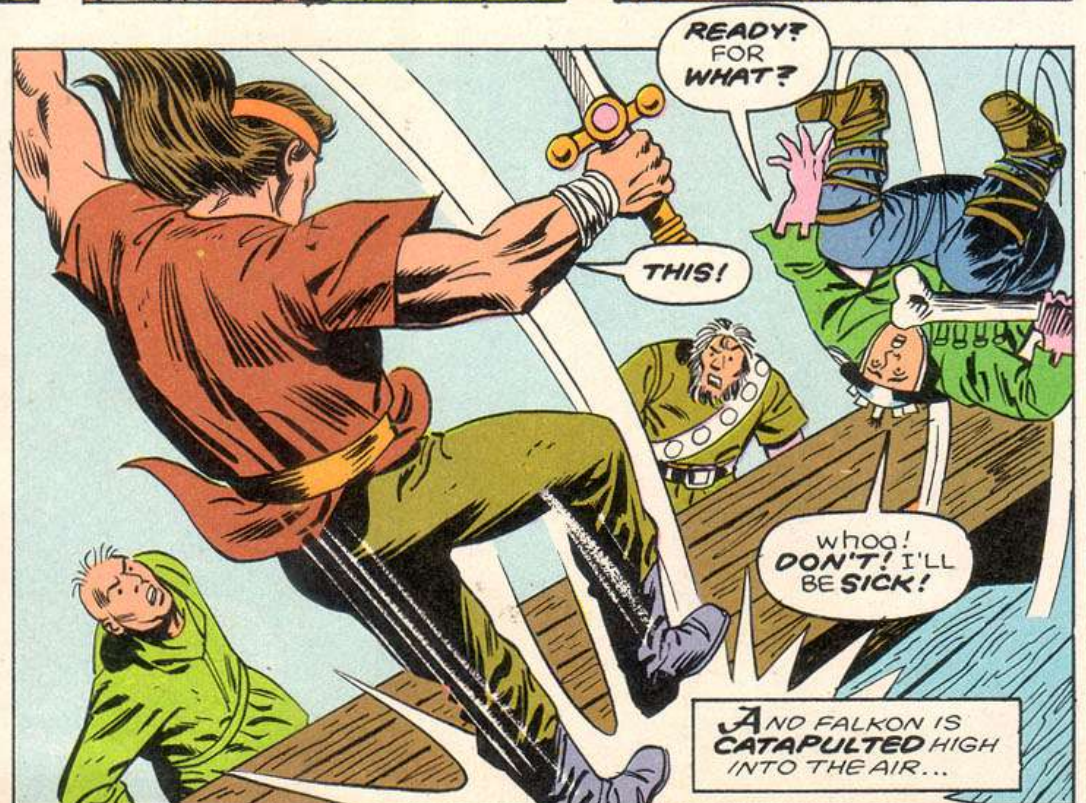
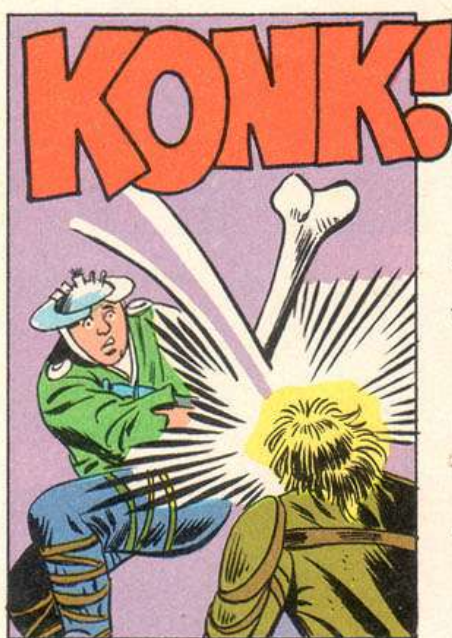
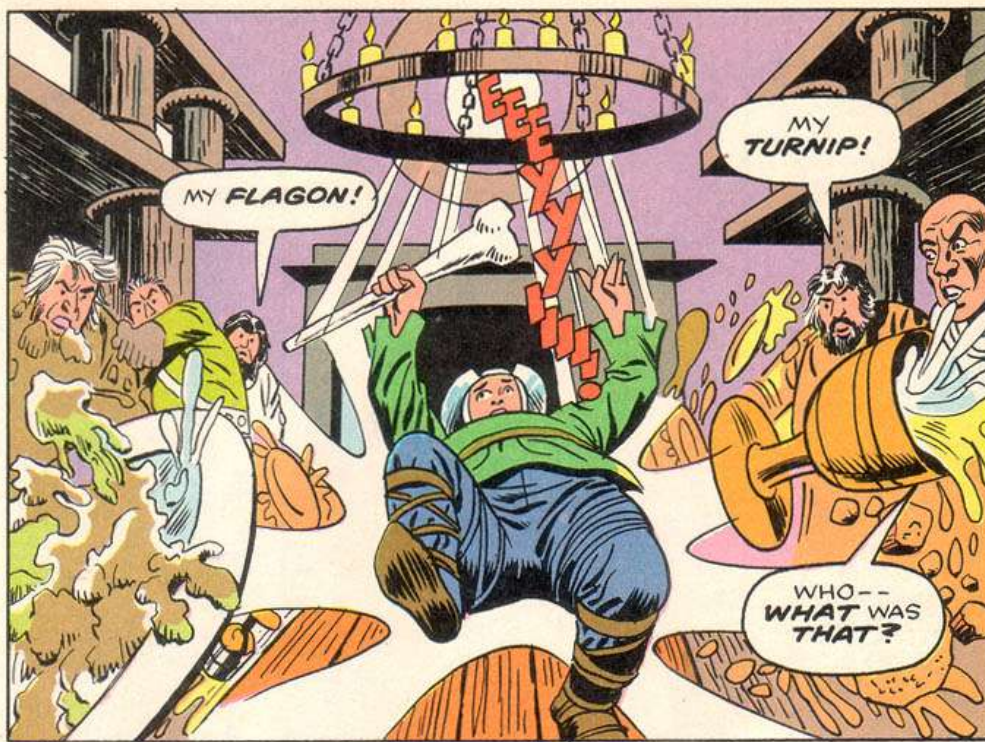
THANKS,
KALIDOR,
FOR YOUR
HELP DOWN
THERE!
HE'LL BE
SAFE, WON'T
HE...?

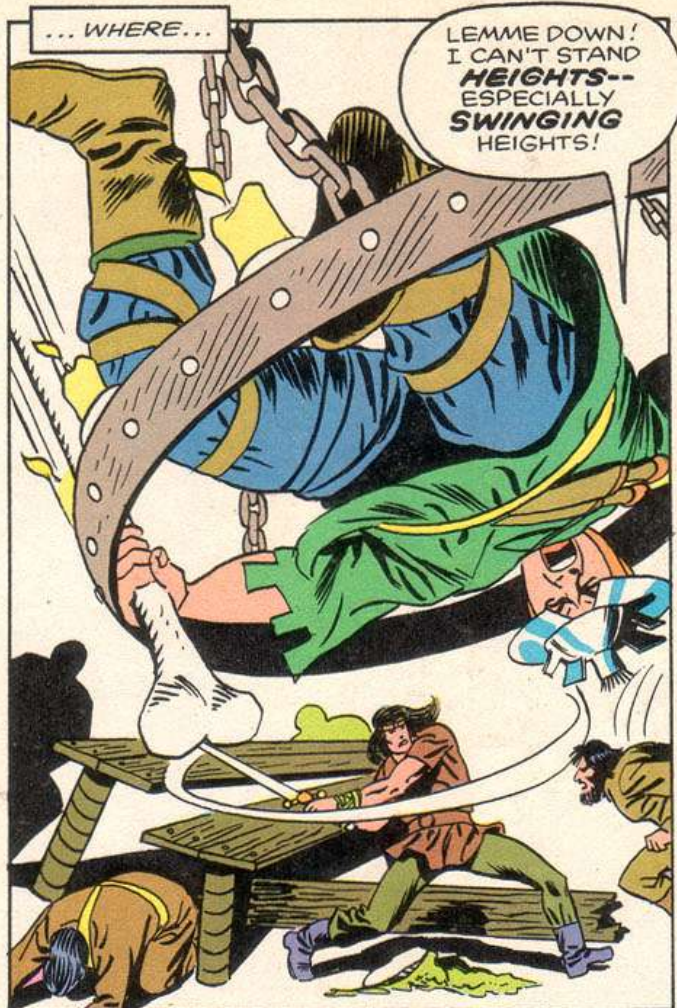
AS LIKELY TO
BE SLAIN BY
FALLING STONES AS
WE ARE BY OUR
ENEMIES SWORDS!
THE **TALISMAN--**

RUMBLE!!

GURGE! WE'RE
UNDER **ATTACK!**
SLAY HER!







WHILE OUTSIDE THE CASTLE...

GRRRAATE

SHE HAS FURTHER **USE** FOR IT, SHE SAYS! **WHAT USE?** HER VAULTS BRIM WITH GOLD, GREAT STATES LIVE IN **TERROR** OF HER!

BUT SHE WANTS TO **RULE** THE WORLD! **MADNESS!** SOON THERE WILL BE **NO** WORLD TO RULE!

WHAT'S GOING **ON** IN THERE? THE GROUND'S **TREMBLING** MORE AND MORE!

THIS IS **STUPID!** SONJA SAID STAY AND GUARD THE DOOR! GUARD IT FROM WHA--?

THE **TALISMAN**... ALMOST BEYOND **CONTROL!** WHY WON'T GEDREN **BURY** IT... IN THE DARK... BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE?

PFAH! I SHALL ESCAPE WITH WHAT TREASURE I CAN!

IKOL! GEDREN'S BLACK SPIDER!

WHO--?

TARN, PRINCE OF **HABLOC!** THE CITY YOU BLASTED WITH YOUR FILTHY SORCERY!

SO... THE ROYAL BRAT HASN'T LEARNED HIS LESSON! OUT OF MY WAY, CHILD!

THE **STONE DOOR** WILL SOON SLAM **SHUT** AND, WHEN IT DOES, I PLAN TO BE ON THE OTHER SIDE!

GRRRAAAAATE

MY **LEG!** I'M FALLING!

YAAAAA!

A FIGHT IS BLOOD! I KNOW THAT, SONJA!

BUT AS FOR FOLLOWING ORDERS, I CAN'T JUST **WAIT** HERE! YOU NEED MY **HELP**... AND A PRINCE CAN'T ABANDON HIS FRIENDS!

MEANWHILE...

RUMBLE!

WHILE NOT FAR AWAY...



OH! WHERE ARE WE, KALIDOR?

ON THE WAY TO THE TALISMAN CHAMBER... I HOPE! COME ON!



THE THRONE ROOM! AND ONLY A SERVING WENCH IN IT!

TELL ME, GIRL, WHERE'S QUEEN GEDREN...?

GONE! OH, I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE! COME HELP ME, PLEASE! PROTECT ME! I'M SO FRIGHTENED!

HELP YOU? WHAT'S WRONG--

NOTHING! NOW THAT THE PRINCE OF HABLOC HONORS US WITH HIS PRESENCE! UNWISELY, I MIGHT ADD!



HOW MANY ARE WITH YOU?



ENOUGH, GEDREN!

THE RED HAIR!

SONJA, I DISOBEYED! I'M SORRY--!

BACK, WOMAN! OR HABLOC WILL NEED AN HEIR TO THE THRONE!

CRASH



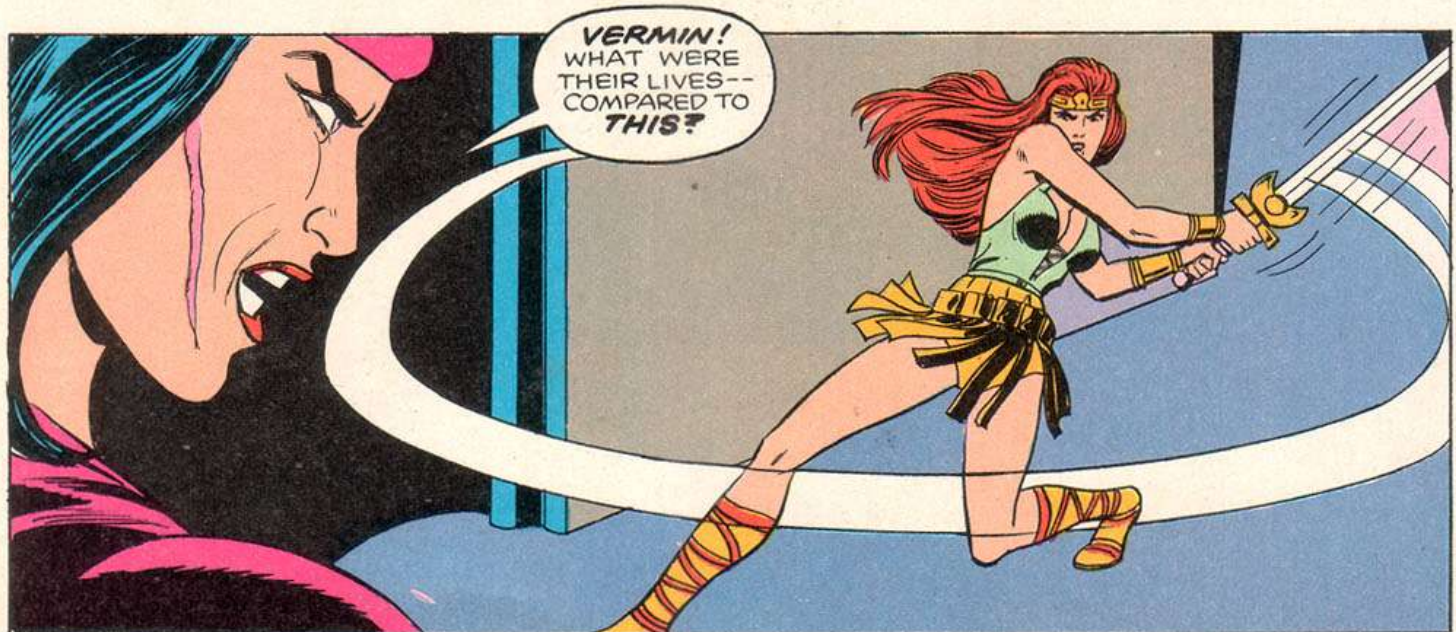
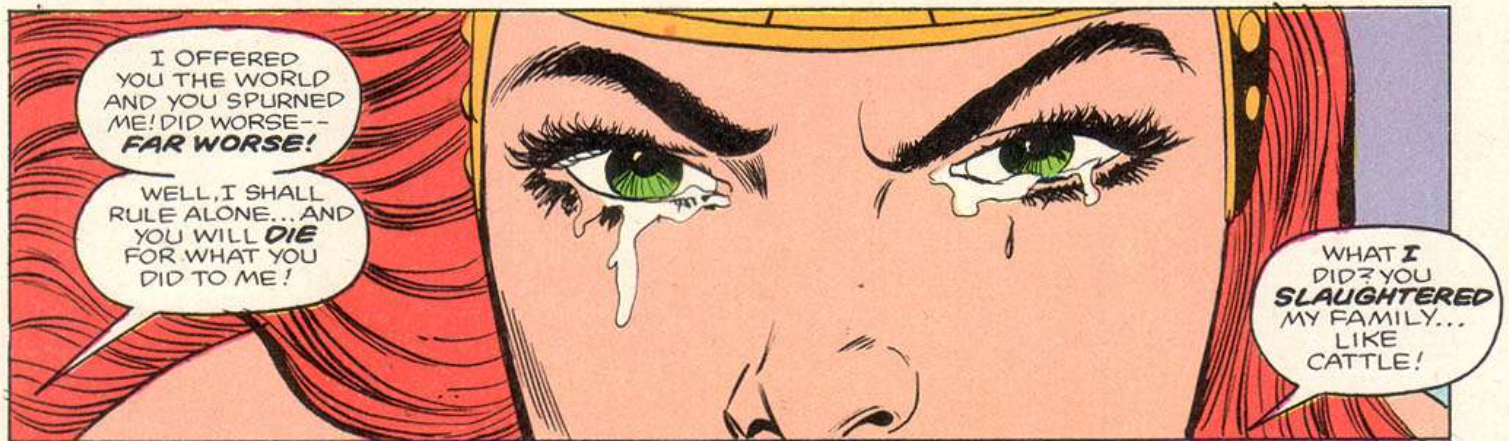
PROTECT ME, MISTRESS!

RUMBLE



SILENCE, SLAVE!

WHACK





SLAM!



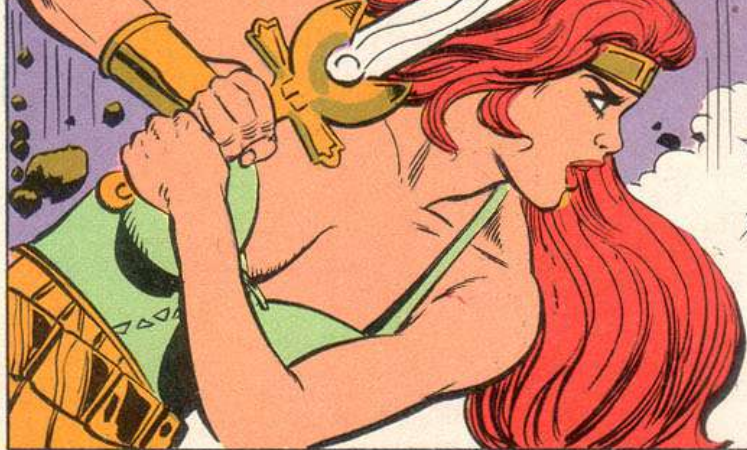
WE ARE BEYOND YOU, VERMIN! THIS FIGHT--TO THE **DEATH**-- IS BETWEEN THE **RED HAIR** AND ME ALONE!

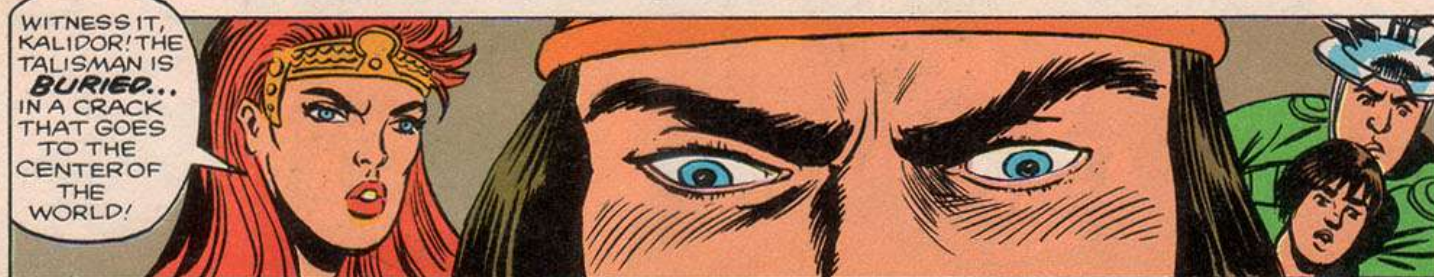
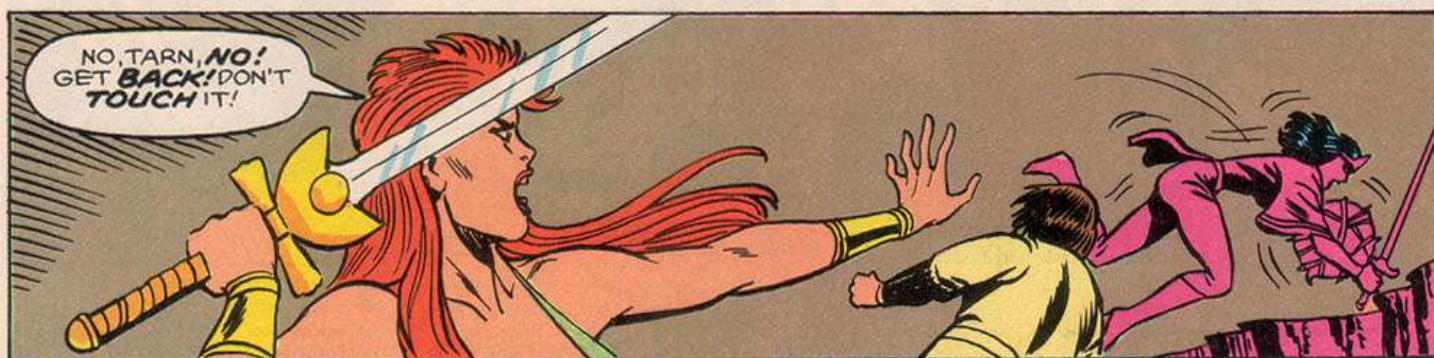
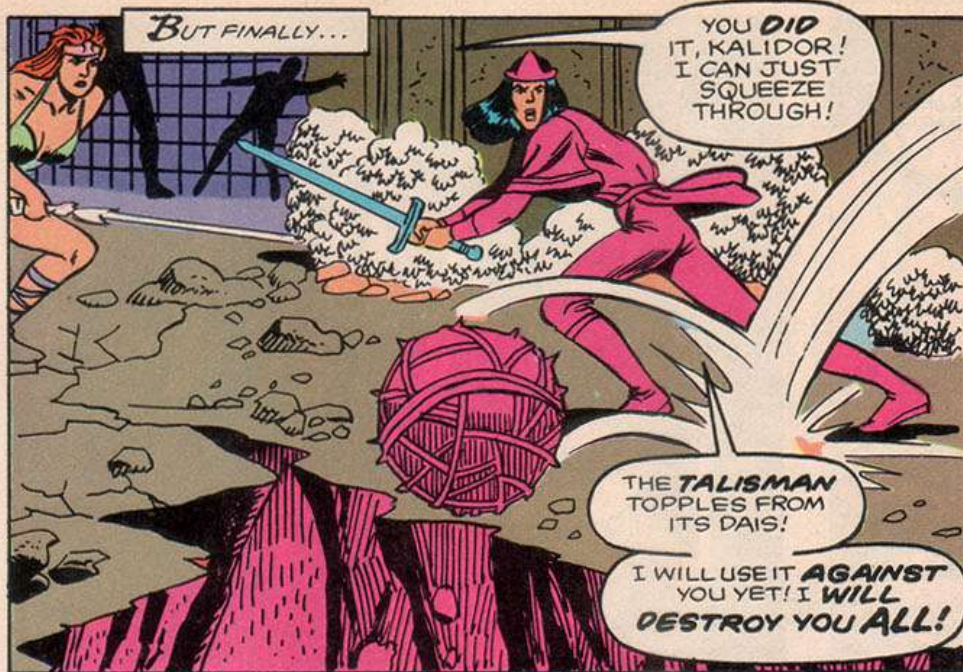
AND IF WE DON'T REACH THE TALISMAN SOON AND **DESTROY** IT, IT WILL DESTROY US ALL!

CAN'T REACH THE LEVER! IT'S TOO FAR AWAY! BUT IF I BEND THE BARS A LITTLE...



RRRUMMMBBLECRASH







RUN! THE CASTLE'S CRUMBLING ABOUT OUR EARS!



LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!



THEN, WITH A DEAFENING RUMBLE, THE CASTLE EXPLODES...

...IN A MASS OF FLYING RUBBLE SHOT THROUGH WITH STREAKS OF BRIGHT GREEN FLAME!

THEN SUDDENLY... ALL IS SILENT AND THE WORLD IS ONCE AGAIN AT PEACE!



WHOEVER SHE IS, CHOOSE CAREFULLY! I MAKE IT A RULE...

... NEVER TO TAKE A WOMAN UNLESS SHE CAN BEAT ME IN FAIR FIGHT! GOOD-BYE, SONJA!

GOOD-BYE, FRIEND KALIDOR! THAT'S A CHALLENGE I MIGHT THINK ABOUT... SOME DAY!

AND RED SONJA WHEELS HER HORSE AND GALLOPS TOWARD THE RISING SUN... AND INTO THE ADVENTURES THAT LEGENDS ARE MADE OF...

THE NEXT MORNING...

WHEN HABLOC IS REBUILT, SONJA, YOU MUST COME TO VISIT US...

I'M SURE TO NEED A QUEEN SOME DAY!

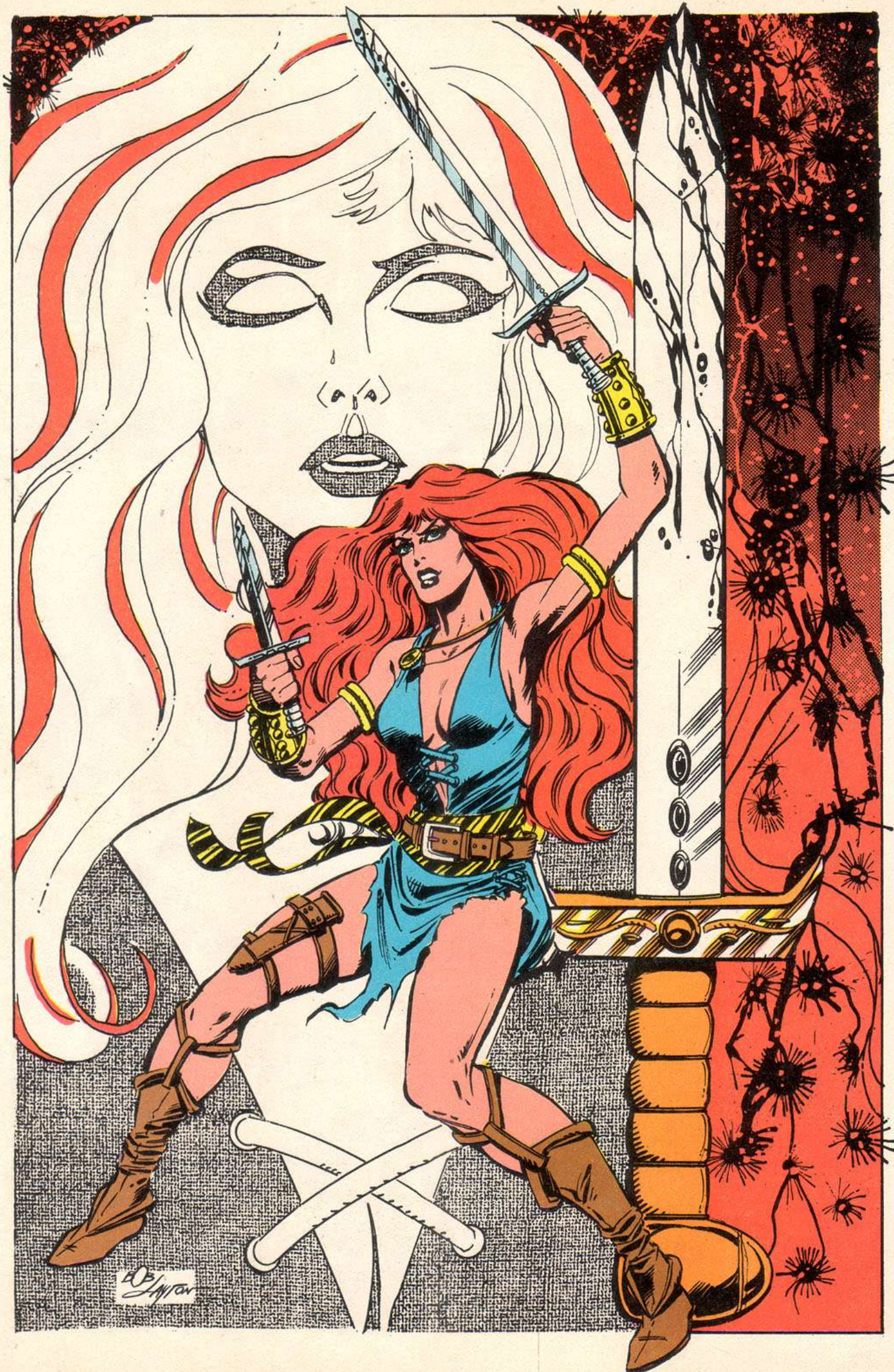
YOU'LL FIND ONE, PRINCE.

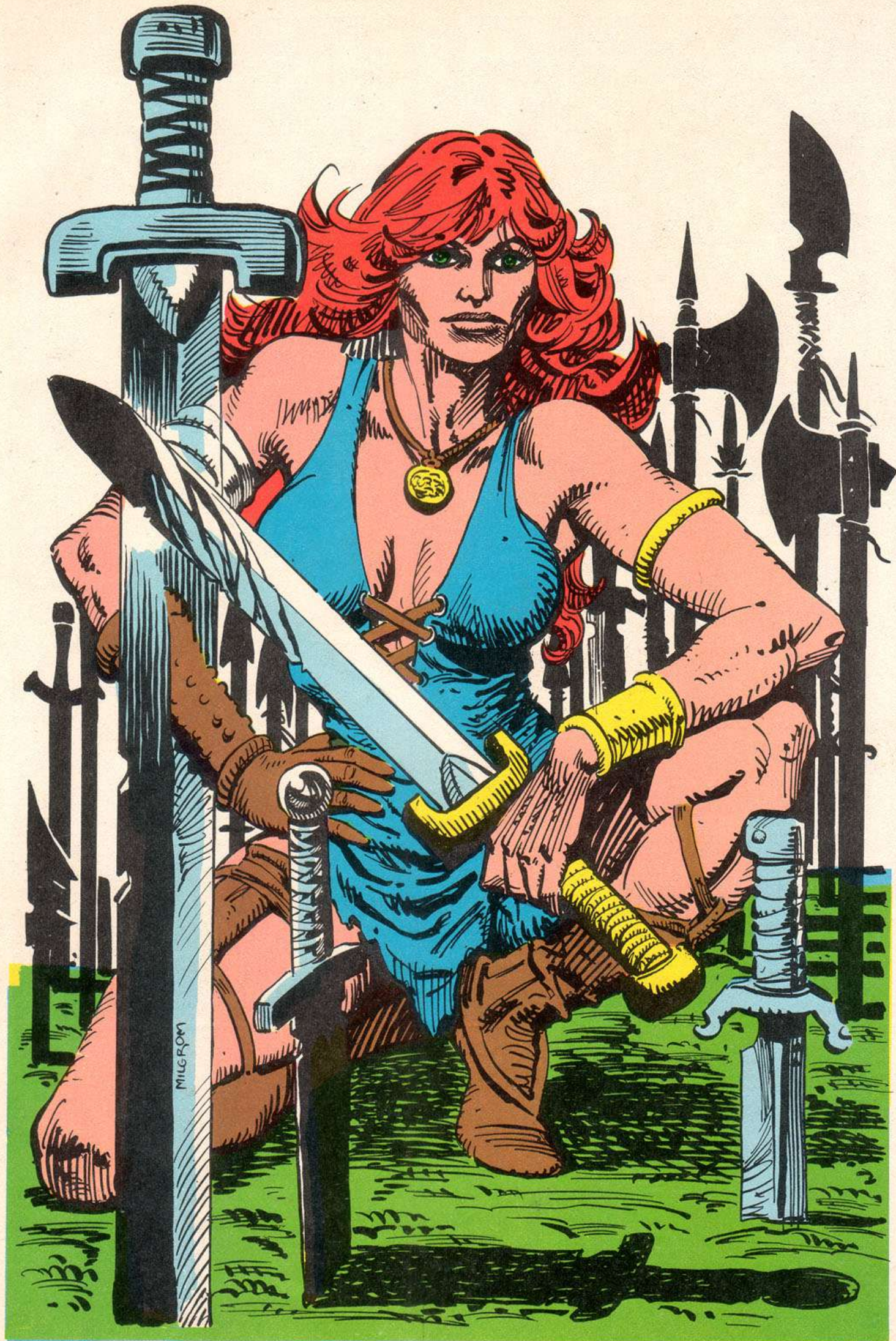


RED SONJA

PIN-UP
TRIO









WRITE TO:

SCARLET LETTERS

387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH
New York, New York 10016





RED SONJA

QUARTERLY FROM MARVEL